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NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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Japan

Government To Link ODA, Nuclear Treaty

OW0905150591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1421 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—Japan's economic assistance to developing countries yet to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty will depend on the degree of such nations' efforts toward signing the international accord, government sources said Thursday.

The sources said the government has outlined its policy concerning Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA), with the aim of prodding nonmember countries toward accepting a policy of nuclear nonproliferation.

There are 142 nations which have so far signed the treaty, including North Korea. Among nonmember nations are India, Pakistan, Israel, Brazil, and Argentina, as well as France and China, both acknowledged nuclear powers.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told the Diet in April that Japan will be more cautious against moves by nonmember nations to produce nuclear weapons.

Japan will soon inform Pakistan of its policy at a meeting of a joint committee of the two countries which started Thursday in Tokyo, the sources said.

Japan pledged 2,685 million dollars in aid to Pakistan for 1989- 1990, according to official Pakistani figures.

The United States suspended its military and economic assistance to Pakistan last October because of Islamabad's nuclear program.

Kaifu To Visit PRC, Mongolia 1-6 Aug

OW0805144791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1429 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 8 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu will visit China and Mongolia August 1-6, a top Foreign Ministry official said Wednesday.

Kaifu will be the first Japanese prime minister to visit China since August 1988, when then Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita visited the country.

The official said Kaifu will visit Beijing August 1-4 and meet Premier Li Peng and other leaders to discuss economic cooperation with China.

Kaifu will proceed to Ulaanbaatarr from Beijing on August 4 for talks with Mongolian leaders, the official said, before returning to Japan on August 6.

Visiting PRC Trade Minister on U.S. Relations

OW0905082691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0809 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—The visiting Chinese trade minister Thursday called for Japan's assistance in improving trade relations with the United States, officials of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said.

Li Lanqing, minister of foreign economic relations and trade, told International Trade and Industry Minister Eiichi Nakao that China has a trade deficit with the United States, despite a U.S. claim that China has a 10 billion dollar surplus, the officials said. China does not include goods exported through Hong Kong, which may be made in China, as exports.

Nakao, saying he called on the U.S. Government to renew most- favored-nation status to China on a recent trip, said Japan is contributing to an improvement in China-U.S. economic relations, they said.

Further on U.S. Undersecretary's Visit

OW0805130691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1237 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 8 KYODO—A senior U.S. official on Wednesday pledged that the United States will help Japan acquire a larger voice in world affairs commensurate with its economic power, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Officials said the pledge was made by Robert Kimmitt, U.S. undersecretary of state for political affairs, to Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada in a session of formal, ad hoc bilateral political consultations.

Kimmitt, the State Department's third-ranking official, also met with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama to call for a strengthening of bilateral ties, noting that the relationship has global implications.

The officials, who declined to go into the substance of the seven-hour consultations between Kimmitt and Owada, said the most fruitful outcome of the meeting in Japan's view was Washington's commitment to helping Japan attain "a greater voice in the international arena."

One official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said, "That is not to say the U.S. was necessarily calling for a greater Japanese global role ... We play quite a large role already."

Kimmitt was also quoted as proposing in the same context that the U.S. and Japan beef up their existing consultative mechanisms, but officials would not say if the idea of setting up of a new kind of mechanism was tabled.

Officials said Kimmitt called for closer bilateral consultations and coordination with regard to such international forums as the United Nations, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the Group of Seven industrialized nations.

They said the two sides also discussed the long-pending issue of a visit to Japan by U.S. President George Bush, but did not delve into matters of timing.

One official said it was "possible, but not probable" that Bush's visit would be realized before July, when the heads of the seven major industrialized democracies meet in London for their annual conference.

In the talks with Kaifu, Kimmitt thanked him for taking into account the fundamentals of the U.S.-Japan relationship when he held summit talks in Tokyo last month with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Officials said Kimmitt also told Kaifu that Washington appreciates Japan's cooperation during and after the Persian Gulf war and hoped it would continue.

Kimmitt, who prior to coming to Japan on Monday visited China for three days, the highest U.S official to do so in 18 months, was quoted as telling Kaifu that the U.S. is paying close attention to his planned visit to China and Mongolia, expected in early August.

The officials said that in the morning session of political consultations, Kimmitt and Owada reviewed the state of the overall bilateral relationship and discussed economic problems and the "perception gap" between their two countries' peoples.

The afternoon session took in the two countries' policies toward the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, China, Mongolia, Indochina, Malaysia's proposal for a new Asian economic bloc, the post-Persian Gulf war situation, the Middle East peace process, and the environment, they said.

They said there was no significant gap in the two sides' views on what the "conceptual framework" should be for extending aid to China and the Soviet Union.

While declining to elaborate on the issue of aid to China, they said reservations were expressed in the talks on aid to the Soviet Union owing to unpredictabilities inherent in that country's fluid domestic situation.

Owada and Kimmitt were said to have agreed on the importance of giving impetus to the Cambodian peace process, which has recently gathered momentum.

Policies toward Vietnam were also discussed, but no details were made clear. Both countries are improving ties with Hanoi, but they continue to make economic assistance conditional on a comprehensive peace settlement in neighboring Cambodia.

On Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed's push for creation of an East Asian Economic Group (EAEG), the officials said Owada and Kimmitt agreed to consider the ramifications of the idea and consult closely on its development.

Japan has remained noncomittal on the Malaysian plan, partially because it would exclude the United States.

They said Kimmitt briefed Japan on U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's recent efforts to set the stage to hold Arab-Israeli peace talks and asked for Japan to continue exerting a political role in the region.

Owada pledged that Japan would do so, noting at the same time that Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama will be visiting the region shortly.

In light of Nakayama's plan to visit Iran during his Middle East tour, Kimmitt expressed Washington's desire to normalize ties with that country.

The officials said in Kimmitt's talks with Nakayama, the two concurred on their opposition to proposals for a multilateral dialogue on naval disarmament in the Asia-Pacific region and for the setting up of an Asian version of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Nakayama expressed concern over the possibility that North Korea may be attempting to develop a nuclear weapons capability, while Kimmitt stressed the importance of increasing international pressure on Pyongyang to accept outside inspections of its nuclear facilities, they said.

Calls For Efforts on Rice Issue

OW0905044591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0421 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—A senior U.S. State Department official called for efforts to solve pending problems between Japan and the United States, especially the issue of opening the Japanese rice market, in a meeting Thursday with a top official of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

Robert Kimmitt, U.S. Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs, made the appeal when he called on LDP Secretary General Keizo Obuchi at the LDP headquarters.

In reply, Obuchi expressed belief that most of the problems can be settled through negotiations between the two countries, LDP officials said.

Kimmitt is visiting Japan after a three-day visit to China.

Meets With Shin Kanemaru

OW0905091991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0904 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—Ministerial-level talks are under way between Washington and Beijing on

Western bloc demands for the inspection of North Korean nuclear facilities, a senior U.S. official said here Thursday.

Robert Kimmitt, U.S. undersecretary of state for political affairs, told former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru that Japan's continued strong interest in the inspection issue has greatly contributed to peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, according to Kanemaru's aides.

Kanemaru was quoted as telling Kimmitt that the normalization talks between Japan and North Korea will not move forward until the inspection problem is settled.

Kanemaru, who played a key role in initiating the normalization talks, also asked the U.S. to support Japanese efforts to persuade North Korea to accept inspection of its nuclear facilities by the International Atomic Energy Agency, the aides said.

Kimmitt is visiting Japan after a three-day visit to China.

North Korea signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in 1985, but has never allowed a complete outside inspection of its nuclear facilities in Yongbyon, about 90 kilometers north of Pyongyang.

The U.S. and South Korea have charged that the Yongbyon complex is designed for the production of nuclear weapons.

MITI Official Remarks on U.S. Chip Accord

OW0905090991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0902 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—A top trade official said Thursday bilateral talks to forge a new semiconductor agreement with the Unites States will roll into another, sixth round.

Yukiharu Kodama, vice minister of international trade and industry, told a press conference an agreement is unlikely to be made in the ongoing fifth round of talks in Washington.

"There remain a number of technical problems to be settled," Kodama said.

He also hinted that the major stumbling blocks of whether the U.S. agrees to lift punitive tariffs on Japanese electronics and if Tokyo will guarantee any specific share of the Japanese chip market to foreign suppliers remain unsolved.

"The technical problems and the basic stances of the two governments toward the new pact are as inseparable as two sides of a coin," he said.

The fifth round is aimed at working out a new chip accord to replace the current agreement that expires at the end of July. Japan wants the U.S. to scrap what remains of the punitive tariffs on Japanese electronics exports imposed as sanctions against Japan's alleged violation of the current pact. The U.S. wants the agreement to improve foreign access to the Japanese market by including a guarantee of a specific portion of the market for foreigners.

On the issue of the differing statistics the two governments use to measure the foreign share, Kodama said they are seeking a third system, on which he hinted Japanese and U.S. experts are working.

The fifth round is expected to continue into Friday.

Nakayama To Raise Issue of U.S. Forces Vehicles

OW0905034491 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 9 May 91 Morning Edition p 2

[Text] In answer to a question at the Lower House Foreign Affairs Committee on 8 May concerning U.S. military vehicles moving around Okinawa with no clearly visible license plates, Foreign Minister Nakayama replied that "we will pass on the message to the U.S. side and discuss the problem."

This issue came to light after Kosuke Uehara (Democratic Socialist Party of Japan) raised the question in the committee on 12 April. Uehara had said: "In the past few years, most official cars used by the U.S. Forces in Okinawa and their dependents have no clearly visible license plates. This is a manifestation of their occupation force mentality." He questioned the Foreign Ministry on the matter. At the committee meeting last month, the Foreign Ministry representative spurned the question, saying "when license plates are absent, these cars have other identification marks." Uehara had then produced photographs and asked for the government's views.

On 8 May, Foreign Minister Nakayama replied that "we are in the process of investigating whether there is a violation of the Status of Forces Agreement. We will pass on the message to the U.S. side and discuss the problem." "If there are indeed cars with no clearly visible marks using public roads, we will ask the U.S. side to take appropriate measures."

Defense Agency Chief on U.S. Military Accord

OW0905130491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1241 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—U.S. Undersecretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz on Thursday proposed launching talks with Japan on concluding a pact aimed at facilitating mutual exchanges of military services and supplies, Defense Agency officials said.

Wolfowitz put forth the proposal on the Acquisition and Cross- Servicing Agreement (ACSA) during a meeting with Japanese Defense Agency Chief Yukihiko Ikeda.

Ikeda pledged to make efforts to reach an agreement on the matter, the officials said.

So far, Japan has remained cautious in concluding such a pact with the United States because of difficulties in a Japanese budgetary mechanism.

On Japanese contributions to the Middle East after the Persian Gulf crisis, Ikeda was quoted as telling Wolfowitz he thinks Japan should do more than send minesweepers to the Gulf.

But he added it is difficult to use the Self-Defense Forces for other purposes.

Democratic Socialist Party's Ouchi Visits U.S.

OW0805233791 Tokyo KYODO in English 2303 GMT 8 May 91

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Washington, May 8 KYODO—U.S. President George Bush will not visit Japan before the annual seven-nation economic summit in London in July, top American officials said Wednesday.

Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger told Keigo Ouchi, chairma f Japan's Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), that Bush s tight schedule and health condition make it difficult for him to travel to Tokyo.

A senior U.S. official reiterated that Bush will visit Japan this fall. The economic summit will take place in London from July 15 to 17.

Secretary of State James Baker, who interrupted the Eagleburger- Ouchi meeting to greet the Japanese politician, said Bush is aware of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's wish for him to visit Tokyo at an early date, a Japanese official said.

The official said Baker told Ouchi that Bush's favorable response to medication no longer necessitates an operation.

Bush was released from hospital Monday after being treated for an irregular heartbeat. Doctors said his heartbeat has returned to normal.

In the meeting with Eagleburger, Ouchi called for U.S. support for the removal of references in the UN Charter to states which were enemies of the original signatories of the charter in World War II. Japan says the term "enemy state" in the charter refers to Japan and Germany.

The Japanese official said Eagleburger expressed American support for Japanese efforts to amend the charter but said that doing so would be difficult because some countries might put forward other amendments.

Eagleburger recommended that Japan draw up a "mechanism or process" to help remove the references, the Japanese official told reporters.

A U.S. government official said some UN member countries are demanding the removal of veto powers by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

Still other UN member countries are calling for enlarging the UN Security Council membership, the official said.

"It would be a Pandora's box," the official cautioned, saying the introduction of an amendment to remove the reference to World War II enemies would be "a very difficult and dangerous thing to do."

He suggested that Japan come up with a strategy to achieve its objective without jeopardizing the existing UN structure.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the official said Germany sees the situation in a more practical light and believes the references have "no meaning."

The Japanese official said Eagleburger also told Ouchi that the U.S. is opposed to a reduction in its naval strength in the Far East despite the Soviet Union's proposal for cutting back its military might in the region.

Meets With Congressmen

OW0905014491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0127 GMT 9 May 91

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Washington, May 8 KYODO—The U.S. Congress will block any attempt by President George Bush to win unconditional extension of Most Favored Nation (MFN) trading status for China and will override a presidential veto if necessary, an influential congressman told a Japanese delegation Wednesday.

Rep. Stephen Solarz, chairman of the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, told a delegation from Japan's Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) that Congress will not approve an extension of MFN status unless China meets certain conditions, DSP officials said.

The DSP group was led by Keigo Ouchi, the party's chairman. The DSP is the fourth largest opposition party in Japan.

The conditions include an improvement in China's human rights record, better accounting for pro-democracy demonstrators still in prison and those who died in the pro-democracy movement in 1989, a halt to the jamming of Voice of America broadcasts, and stopping the alleged harassment of religious leaders in China and Chinese in the United States, Solarz reportedly said.

A DSP official said Solarz, a New York Democrat, expressed confidence that Congress can reject the Bush administration's effort to ask for an automatic extension of the preferential trade treatment for another year.

"Even if the president exercises his veto power, we will override it," the official said Solarz told the Ouchi mission.

Bush has to notify Congress by June 3 whether the U.S. should renew China's MFN status.

Solarz, one of a few American legislators with strong interest in Asian and Pacific affairs, also shared the Japanese concern about North Korea's alleged efforts to develop nuclear weapons, DSP officials told reporters.

Solarz proposed making the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free zone, telling Ouchi and other DSP politicians that nuclear weapons are not essential to deter any North Korean aggression against South Korea.

Rep. Sam Gibbons, chairman of the House Trade Subcommittee of the Ways and Means Committee, said in a separate meeting with the DSP mission that the House Ways and Means Committee will approve an extension of fast track authority to negotiate trade agreements.

But Gibbons, a Florida Democrat, declined to speculate on the outcome of a fast track vote by the full house.

Gibbons also said the 12-nation European Community should make concessions on agriculture for the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round, according to DSP officials.

Ouchi and other DSP politicians also met Sens. Daniel Akaka of Hawaii and Albert Gore of Tennessee.

Akaka, a Hawaii Democrat, told the DSP mission that Hawaiians are wary of Japanese investment in real estate there.

The DSP delegation also conferred with Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger.

Foreign Ministry Criticizes U.S. Magazine Poll

OW0805150991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1439 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 8 KYODO—A senior Foreign Ministry official has taken issue with U.S. opinion polls that allegedly "amplify a built-in bias" against Japan, rather than objectively reflecting public sentiment.

Taizo Watanabe, spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, made the criticism in a letter published in the readers' column of the May 13 edition of the U.S.-based BUSINESS WEEK magazine.

The magazine published in its April 1 edition a Harris Poll showing that 73 percent of the American public feel Japan "got away without contributing its fair share" to coalition forces in the Persian Gulf.

Watanabe accused the magazine of deliberately framing the questions "in such a way as to elicit a feeling of ill will toward Japan."

The poll had prefaced its question as to whether or not Japan "got away" cheaply with an explanation that the country, which gets 60 percent of its oil from the Gulf, pledged 13 billion dollars to the coalition, but sent no troops or equipment.

Watanabe called the poll "a classic example of how a selective citing of certain facts and data in opinion poll questions can condition the responses."

The pollees, he said, should have been informed that Japan, immediately following the outbreak of the ground war, "took the lead" ahead of all other countries in contributing 9 billion dollars in extra support for the coalition.

That was in addition to 4 billion dollars that had been committed in the latter half of 1990.

Watanabe said the people surveyed should also have been told that the cost to Japanese taxpayers, about 40 dollars per capita, "entailed a great risk for the ruling political party," which had suffered an election defeat in the House of Councillors of the Diet in 1989.

The spokesman also said that, at 60 million dollars, Japan paid more than any other country for rescue operations to assist war refugees.

Japan, he added, "has scrupulously maintained its policy of not exporting arms to Iraq or any other country—in stark contrast to the record of some coalition members."

Osaka Project Promised To Be Opened to U.S.

OW0805141291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1324 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 8 KYODO—Japan has promised during bilateral negotiations on its contruction market to open a 100- billion-yen construction project in Osaka to U.S. contractors, Japanese sources said Wednesday.

The sources close to the project told KYODO NEWS SERVICE the pledge was made in the course of governmental negotiations under way since May last year to review liberalization of the Japanese construction market.

The Japanese agreement was in response to U.S. demands that Japan open all public works projects to foreign competitors, the sources said.

Both sides will resume discussions on the issue at the eighth session of negotiations scheduled for the middle of this month, they said.

The project in question is the Rinku Gate Tower Building, scheduled for completion at the end of 1994, the sources said.

The building, overlooking the Kansai International Airport under construction near Osaka, will be the center of the Rinku Town project of a group of private companies, of which the Osaka prefectural government is an investor.

The entire project calls for investment totaling about 106 billion yen.

The 57-story, 260-meter high twin tower building will be equipped with international conference facilities and a hotel.

Japan has already pledged to allow U.S. and other foreign contractors to participate in the Kansai International Airport construction, and a limited number of other major public works projects.

It hopes to conclude the current round of construction talks with the United States by the end of this year as Washington is preparing to take retaliatory measures under the Super 301 clause of its trade act, the sources said.

The clause allows the U.S. Government to retaliate against nations with unfair trade practices.

Nagasaki Governor Remarks on Turtle Shell Ban

OW0905131691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1253 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 9 KYODO—Isamu Takada, governor of Nagasaki Prefecture, appealed to Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI) Eiichi Nakao on Thursday not to ban imports of endangered sea turtle shells.

Takada requested Nakao not to prohibit imports of sea turtle shells in order to protect craft works using valuable turtle shells in Nagasaki Prefecture, which has a history of more than 300 years of the craft works, MITI officials said.

However, Nakao told the governor that the issue has invited large discussions in the United States and therefore the demand for Japan's total ban on hawksbill shell imports has become stronger, the officials said.

Japan has been under growing pressure from the United States and other countries to stop imports of the shells of the hawksbill, a sea turtle protected as an endangered species under the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, popularly known as the Washington treaty.

According to U.S. Interior Department statistics, Japan bought 234,000 hawksbill turtle shells from more than 20 countries between 1981 and 1989.

In response, the Japanese Government has already limited hawksbill imports and now is apparently considering a total ban.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu earlier this week proposed that MITI should develop an artificial substitute for turtle shells to help artisans survive after imports are prohibited.

Referring to Kaifu's comment, Gov. Takada said plastic cannot be used as a substitute for hawksbill shells. In addition, it is hard for artisans to change or quit their jobs, he was reported as appealing to Nakao.

According to data, there are some 1,400 people in Japan engaging in making tortoise shell handicraft products, with the combined business amounting to about 17 billion yen a year.

SDF To Assist U.S. in Night Landing Exercises

OW0805140491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1339 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 8 KYODO—Japan and the United States have agreed that Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) will assist night time landing exercises on Iwojima Island by planes from U.S. aircraft carriers, sources said Wednesday.

The island, which lies about 1,300 kilometers south of Tokyo, will be used, possibly from this summer, as a temporary site for the exercises because of complaints from residents around the U.S. Atsugi Base in Kanagawa Prefecture, west of Tokyo, about noise from U.S. planes using the base.

U.S. officials say that the site for the exercises will be moved to the island at the request of the Japanese side, and that the lighting and facilities for equipment storage there are inadequate.

The sources said that Japan agreed in talks with the U.S. to put up the cost of buying and transporting the jet fuel used in the exercises, though it will be repayed later by the U.S.

SDF aircraft will also carry equipment, aircraft maintenance personnel, and other ground staff, they said.

Keidanren Makes Decision on South African Ban

OW0805120291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1106 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 8 KYODO—The powerful Federation of Economic Organizations moved Wednesday to urge the government to lift a trade ban on South Africa, sources in the federation said.

The sources said the decision was made at a meeting of the federation's top executives led by Chairman Gaishi Hiraiwa.

The meeting was held to hear reports from a mission sent recently to South Africa by the federation to investigate the economic and social situation in the country.

Hiraiwa, emerging from the meeting, told reporters the racial problem in South Africa has moved toward a solution and Japan is the last country to open its door to the African nation.

Japan joined other countries in 1985 in imposing economic sanctions against South Africa to protest the apartheid racial discrimination policy, thus restricting Japanese investment and loans to the country.

The mission reported the sanctions have caused a serious impact on the South African economy and that suspension of sports and cultural interchanges has deepened psychological isolation in the minds of the South African people, the sources said.

The South African Government of President Frederik Willem de Klerk has taken a series of legislative steps to abolish the apartheid policy.

The mission's report said the European Community has already lifted a ban on investment in South Africa and that the country's economic growth is vital to the economies of other African nations, the sources said.

The report also stressed the importance of South Africa as a supplier of natural resources to Japan, the sources said.

The delegation made an eight-day tour of South Africa from April 20, exchanging views with government, business and black African political leaders on bilateral and other issues.

Keidanren Chief Remarks on Discount Rate

OW0805121991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1031 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 8 KYODO—The chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) on Wednesday reiterated his view that the Japanese economy does not yet need a cut in the official discount rate.

"Even without meddling with monetary policy, capital spending has turned up," Gaishi Hiraiwa said at a news conference. "I think we are headed for a period of growth longer than the Izanagi Boom," the longest economic boom in Japan's postwar history.

Liquidity is currently not so tight, Hiraiwa said, adding the economy is regaining steam and capital investment stays strong.

The chairman also underlined the need for firm interest rates to cap inflation, saying, "while wholesale prices have stabilized, consumer prices are still rising slowly."

He added there is still a need to bring down the speculative land and stock prices in Japan's "bubble" economy.

Hiraiwa's views contradict those of his counterpart at the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai), Masaru Hayami, who called Tuesday for a cut in the discount rate, saying the "bubble" had calmed down.

When asked about the difference of views, Hiraiwa said, "It is good to have various opinions on this type of problem."

Diet Session Ends With Passage of Various Bills

OW0805122891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1151 GMT 8 May 91

[Excerpts] Tokyo, May 8 KYODO—The Diet, wrapping up a 150- day ordinary session, passed 10 bills Wednesday, including a child care leave bill ensuring parents of newborn infants a year of leave from work without fear of dismissal.

The other measures winning final passage Wednesday included a bill exempting some items from the consumption tax, another giving the police expanded powers to fight organized crime, and a bill aimed at ensuring the smooth opening of large new stores.

Debate in the ordinary Diet session, convened on December 10, focused on Japan's contribution to the allied effort in the Persian Gulf war. [passage omitted]

The Diet approved 83 of the 93 bills submitted by the cabinet.

However, there was no action on two areas on which Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu has placed top priority—political reform and the formation of an organization to assist in United Nations peacekeeping operations. [passage omitted]

Organized crime groups, meanwhile, will feel more heat from the police under a bill drafted by the National Police Agency that also won passage Wednesday.

The new law, to go into effect within a year, gives prefectural public safety commissions the power to designate organizations as underworld, or "yakuza," groups.

The commission will now be able to ban yakuza gangs from 11 types of acts, including using their offices during mob disputes.

The law, making it easier to cut off the gangs' sources of funds, allows the commissions to ban designated groups from demanding "protection" fees, forcing people to make purchases, or intervening in debt collection.

North Korea

North Red Cross Sends Phone Message to South

SK0905051091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the Central Committee of the Red Cross

Society of the DPRK, today sent a telephone message to Kim Sang-hyop, president of the South Korean Red Cross.

Notifying him that two liaison officials would be dispatched to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom at three P.M. May 10, 1991 (Friday) to convey a letter to the "National Council of Student Representatives" of South Korea at the request of the Korean student committee, Yi Song-ho asked the South side to take a corresponding measure.

Soccer Association Holds Dinner for North Team

SK0705001291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1540 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Seoul May 6 (KCNA correspondent)—The Football Association of the South side arranged a dinner-party this evening for the soccer team of the North side which had arrived in Seoul for the first round of match to select those players of the unified Korea team who will participate in the 6th World Youth Football Championships.

Present on invitation were the North side's team leader Yi Myong-song, vice-chairman of the Football Association of the DPRK, players, officials and reporters.

Present on the South side were the "minister of sports and youth and children," sports officials, players and personages of various strata.

Yi Myong-song in his speech extended compatriotic greetings to all the brothers of South Korea including Seoul citizens for having greeted the North team with warm feelings of kinship.

He stressed:

It is the aspiration of our fellow countrymen to reunify the North and the South, the South and the North in all fields to make greater one, more powerful one. [sentence as received]

I am convinced that the appraisal matches in Seoul will be held in conformity with the unanimous desire of all the compatriots in the North, the South and overseas for reunification and thus demonstrate widely at home and abroad that our country is one and so is our nation.

Kim U-chung, chairman of the Football Association of the South side, in his speech sincerely welcomed the North side's team on behalf of all the footballers in South Korea.

The footballers in the North and the South are sitting together with unbreakable bonds of the same blood vein and the same nation, he noted, adding:

The unified soccer team should demonstrate the unity of our nation throughout the world.

Prior to the dinner, members of our soccer team went round the Chamsil Stadium and had a joint training.

South Minister Comments on Joint N-S Teams

SK0805102891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0958 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Seoul May 6 (KCNA correspondent)—Pak Chol-on, "minister of sports and youth and children" of South Korea, who was present at a dinner hosted by the South Korean Football Association in honor of the soccer team from the North on May 6, answering questions put by our reporters, said "the South and North should proceed into the international arena by forming a unified team not only in football but also in other sports events."

Saying that the South and the North should be united into one to send a unified team to Barcelona Olympiad and the Samjiyon Winter Asian Games, he continued:

The South and the North should appear in the international arena with a unified team in all sports events in the future.

They should share one seat in international organisations, too. Sharing one seat in international organisations as they become one in the sports field is the way of heading for reunification and demonstrating the superiority of the nation.

It is desirable for the South and the North to share one seat in the United Nations by reaching an agreement.

North Soccer Team Leader Protests South Media

SK0805060791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0500 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Seoul May 7 (KCNA correspondent)—Yi Myong-song leader of the North side's soccer team, and Kim Se-chin, chairman of the working committee, now staying in Seoul for the appraisal match to select players of the North-South unified soccer team called out O Wan-kon, vice-chairman of the Football Association of the South side, and the chief of the external affairs section of the "Ministry of Sports and Youth and Children" Tuesday evening and strongly protested against the South Korean press committing without hesitation an act of spoiling the atmosphere of dialogue, unity and reunification and hurling slanders at the political system of the North.

Recalling that on May 6 and 7 the South Korean press carried articles openly vilifying the North's system on the instructions of someone, the North side charged that this represented the stand of the South Korean authorities who are trying to gratify the wild ambition for "unification by prevailing over communism", using the appraisal match of the unified soccer team watched by the entire fellow countrymen for confrontation and anti-reunification propaganda.

And it referred to this smear campaign as a ridiculous attempt to prevent the greatness and superiority of our socialist system from being known to the South Korean people.

In his speech Yi Myong-song said our sportsmen can say proudly that they have done a great thing for the country and fellow countrymen by giving birth to the unified team of the nation, he stressed, adding:

We sportsmen, whether they live in the North or in the South, should always become forerunners in rejecting the separatist forces, achieving national reconciliation and unity and bringing earlier the reunification of the country.

Kim Chong-yol in his speech said he sincerely welcomed the North side's soccer team which came to Seoul to participate in the appraisal match and noted that the unified soccer team of the North and the South like unified table tennis team should highly exalt the name of the nation all over the world.

Soccer Team Returns; Statement Reported

SK0905111991 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1012 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—The soccer team of the North side and its entourage returned to Pyongyang this afternoon by train after staying in Seoul three nights and four days for the first appraisal match to select the players of the unified Korea team which will compete in the 6th world youth football championships.

They were met at Pyongyang Railway Station by sportsmen and working people in the city.

Also present at the railway station were Yun Ki-pok, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and vice-chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland; Chang Chol, vice-premier and minister of culture and art; Kim Yu-sun, chairman of the Olympic Committee of the DPRK and chairman of the State Commission of Physical Culture and Sports, and others.

The soccer team left Seoul this morning and passed through Panmunjom.

Prior to departure from Seoul, spokesman for the North side's soccer team Kim Chong-sik made public a statement.

Noting that there were regrettable things hardly understandable during the team's stay in Seoul, apart from the successful holding of the appraisal match, he said:

The South side openly obstructed the news coverage of our reporters and slandered our best socialist system and dignified political system through the "National Assemblymen" of the South side who had participated in the 85th Interparliamentary Conference and reporters who accompanied them.

We cannot tolerate such act which pushes the relations between the North and the South to aggravation and strongly hold that such dastardly act must not be repeated in the future.

The second appraisal match is to be held in Pyongyang on May 12.

South Urged To Stop Plan To Enter UN Alone

SK0405063591 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0600 GMT 4 May 91

["'Unilateral U.N. Membership' for Permanent Division Must Never Be Allowed"]

[Text] Pyongyang May 4 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON Friday urges the South Korean authorities once again to immediately stop the criminal campaign for "simultaneous entry" or "unilateral entry" into the United Nations which will mean recognising, freezing and legitimating the division of the nation and to accede without delay to our fair and aboveboard reunification-oriented proposal that the North and the South jointly enter the United Nations as one member.

The paper says in a signed article:

The U.N. membership of Korea is an important matter directly linked with the future of the inter-Korean relations and the reunification of the country.

If the North and the South joined the United Nations separately before the reunification of the country, it would mean that we ourselves recognise and legitimate the foreign-imposed division. This would not help toward detente and peaceful reunification.

It is clear to everyone that if the North and the South of Korea separately joined the U.N. like Germany and the division were legitimated internationally, it would not help toward peace and peaceful reunification of the country.

While engaging in such work harmful to the reunification of the country, the South Korean authorities argue that it is beneficial. Herein lies the harmfulness of the "unilateral U.N. membership" campaign.

If the North and the South of Korea were divided into different states and legitimated as such, the North-South relations would be like relations between aliens, there would be created a big difference in language and cultural life and the features of the homogeneous nation would disappear with the difference growing wider. Moreover, foreign ways swarming into South Korea would damage the beautiful customs of the Korean nation and reduce the blood of the Koreans to a mixture and thus change not only the appearance but the quality of the Korean nation. This is just the process of perpetuating the division of the nation.

What is more apprehensible with the South Korean authorities' "unilateral U.N. membership" campaign is that in case the division of Korea into North and South is legitimated, the South Korean authorities, unreservedly revealing their separatist nature, might raise the "rights of a legitimate state" against the reunification of the nation and foolishly ask the United Nations to check the demand for national reunification, branding it as "interference in the internal affairs" of another country.

The issue of U.N. membership of Korea must be dealt with through agreement between the North and the South and this accords with the principle of the universality of U.N. membership and the principle of national self-determination. If the South Korean authorities, ignoring this demand, unilaterally join the United Nations with the backing of the United States, their master, and other major powers, the inter-Korean relations will go from bad to worse and our nation undergo greater misfortune and disasters.

Unilateral Entry Bid Denounced

SK0405060891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0528 GMT 4 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 4 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities are these days sending the former "foreign minister," former "prime minister," former "education minister" and others to foreign countries as "special envoys of the president" to explain the "reasonableness" of their unilateral entry into the United Nations and ask for support to it. And it is reported that at the "foreign ministers'" talks in Washington, the sides "agreed to make joint efforts to resolve the problem of South Korea's unilateral entry into the U.N. within this year."

Lurking behind the South Korean authorities' "unilateral U.N. membership" campaign is their sinister intention to prolong the division and create an international climate for "unification by prevailing over communism" by taking advantage of the change in the balance of forces in the international arena, points out NODONG SINMUN today.

The news analyst says:

It is not the first time that the South Korean rulers busy themselves sending former and incumbent "ministers" to foreign countries for divisive diplomacy.

To prolong the division of the country and open the door for foreign interference and aggression while foolishly dreaming of "unification by prevailing over communism" is an unpardonable anti-national crime which will inflict greater misfortunes on the fellow countrymen and endanger the future of the nation.

The South Korean authorities revealed their nature as the reaction in history and separatists by engaging themselves in divisive diplomacy in disregard of the nation's desire and will for reunifying the country in the 1990s.

Their "unilateral U.N. membership" campaign designed to formulate "two Koreas" in the international arena, internationalize the internal affairs of the nation and realise "unification by prevailing over communism" with the backing of outside forces will certainly come to a failure.

If the South Korean authorities have the least interest in the reunification of the country, they should return to the national position and immediately stop the "unilateral U.N. membership" campaign.

MINJU CHOSON Views UN Issue

SK0505101991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0905 GMT 5 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—The entreaty diplomacy of the South Korean "foreign minister" toward the United States was run through with traitorous act of selling off the interests of the nation and seeking the permanent division of the country, says MINJU CHOSON today.

The utterances of the "foreign minister" that the "security pact" between the United States and South Korea whitewashing the U.S. troops' occupation of South Korea is an indispensible element for maintaining stability in the Korean peninsula and Northeastern Asia reveal the ulterior intention of the pro-American stooges to remain in the dictatorial power under the armed protection of the U.S. imperialists, the news analyst says, and continues:

He said that the relations with the U.S. are the cornerstone of North-South relations, shunning the clear truth that the relationship with foreign forces cannot be the cornerstone of the relationship between the fellow countrymen. His outcry proves that South Korean authorities intend to solve the question of the North-South relations, placing the interests of the U.S. above those of the nation, with the backing of the United States.

The news analyst further says:

Never should it go unnoticed that he let out the sophism that South Korea's entry into the United Nations does not hamper the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula, saying that it needs active support of the United States.

Originally, the scheme for South Korea's "unilateral U.N. membership" is based on the U.S. scenario of "two Koreas" and is being stepped up under the direction of the United States.

The "simultaneous or unilateral entry into the U.N." results in legalising the division of Korea in the international arena.

The South Korean authorities should ponder over the consequences of the splittist entreaty diplomacy conducted by themselves fawning on the outside forces, turning their back on the nation.

South Unionist's 'Suicide' Said Torture Death

SK0805113491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1038 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u ruling group killed Pak Chang-su, chairman of the labour union of the Hanjin Heavy Industries Co. in Pusan, by torture and described his death as "suicide", a report from Seoul said.

When the young man died in the Anyang Hospital in Anyang City as a result of harsh torture on him at the Suwon detention house, the No Tae-u fascist group, in a bid to conceal its crime, announced that he committed suicide by jumping off the seventh floor of the hospital building 25 metres high in the lonely hour on the early morning of May 6.

The falsity of the announcement was brought to light from the very beginning.

It is proved by the fact that Pak Chang-su did not leave a will before suicide and there can be found on his dead body no such wound as would have been caused by bumping against the ground from 25 metres of height.

Although it was announced that he was taken to the Anyang hospital after he had got a wound on his head while playing with a ball on the playground of the detention house, an official of the detention house said the youth never played with a ball.

Facts show that the No Tae-u ruling group killed him by torture and described it as "suicide" as it had habitually done.

Student Detainee's Mother Interviewed in Seoul

SK0905112991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1017 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Seoul May 9 (KCNA correspondent)—Reporters of the North side staying here to cover the appraisal match to select players of the North-South unified soccer team, by good luck, snatched a significant chance of talking with the mother of woman student Yim Su-kyong, the "flower of reunification," on the phone this morning, before leaving the hotel.

Yim Su-kyong participated in he 13th World Festival of Youth and Students held in Pyongyang in the summer of 1989 as the delegate of the "South Korean National Council of Student Representatives." Upon returning to South Korea, she was arrested on charges of violation of the "National Security Law" and has since been suffering behind bars.

The interview lasted about six minutes. When Choe Min, a reporter with the DPRK Radio and TV Broadcasting Committee, rang up Su-kyong's home, Un-kyong, her elder sister, answered on the phone. She instantly recognized him and was very pleased to hear the voice of the reporter who had visited her family during the third round of inter-Korean high-level talks. She handed the receiver to Kim Chong-un, her mother, without loss of time.

Overwhelmed with emotion at the unexpected phone call, the mother repeated "very glad, very glad." She asked why he called her up so late, when they would visit her family again, and asked him to forward her greetings to the fellow countrymen in the North.

Saying although she wanted so ardently to go and see the appraisal match to select players of the North-South unified soccer team yesterday, her feet were bound, she again asked him to convey her family's regards to the fellow countrymen in the North.

Reporters of the North side inquired after Su-kyong's health.

Telling them that Su-kyong is still serving her jail term, the mother emphasized that her daughter would surely be set free by the public opinion at home and abroad and the struggle for the amendment or abolition of the "National Security Law."

The country must be reunified as early as possible and, thus, Su-kyong be released from prison soon she stressed, repeatedly saying "I extend thanks to the fellow countrymen in the North."

U.S. 4, 5 May Aerial Exercises in South Noted

SK0705050991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0435 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 7 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Airforce Command staged provocative joint air strike exercises against the northern half of Korea in the sky above South Korea on May 4 and 5, according to military sources.

Mobilised in the war exercises staged in the skies above Wonju, Kangnung, Yongdong, Yoju, Sangdong and Tanyang were Pacific-based nuclear-capable F-16 and F-15 fighter-bombers and F-16, F-4 and F-5 fighter-bombers of the U.S. Seventh Airforce and the puppet airforce, more than 130 in all.

In separate action, the U.S. Pacific Airforce Command brought formations of nuclear-capable F-15 fighter-bombers and FA-18 pursuit-assault planes to the Osan Airfield from Kadena and Atsuki Bases in Japan on May 4 and formations of nuclear-capable F-16s to Osan Airbase from Misawa Base in Japan on May 5.

On the 4th of May, the U.S. imperialists brought formations of C-5 large transport planes carrying huge combat equipment from the mainland to bases of the U.S. Airforce present in South Korea.

On May 4 and 5, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets let fly U-2, RV-1, RC-12, RF-4 and RF-5 high-altitude strategical reconnaissance planes and army reconnaissance planes one after another above the Military Demarcation Line for a long and intensive aerial espionage and photographing on the frontline and indepth areas of the North.

In the same period they sent scores of helicopters to the sky above the Military Demarcation Line, committing military provocations against us.

The military planes involved in the aerial war exercises in the sky above South Korea on May 4 and 5 numbered more than 1,000.

Articles Condemning South Student's Death Cited

SK0405003491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT 3 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 3 (KCNA)—Teachers, students and their parents in the northern half of Korea vehemently denounce the South Korean authorities for their fascist atrocity of having murdered student Kang Kyong-tae of Myongji University in Seoul who was participating in a peaceful demonstration.

They contribute to NODONG SINMUN and other newspapers in Pyongyang articles condemning the No Tae-u ruling group for its murderous atrocities.

Pak Kwan-o, president of Kim Il-song University, said that the bestial murder of student Kang Kyong-tae by the South Korean authorities is not an accident or misconduct caused by "excessive repression" by a few policemen. It is an inevitable producton the truculent fascist rule of the No Tae-u group which is accustomed to massive terrorism and massacre.

The South Korean authorities are now behaving in a capricious way, saying that "it is a pity, while desperately trying to bridge over the crisis by calling someone to account. But, they cannot conceal the true color of the murderers which has already been exposed to the core.

Choe Kum-sun, president of Kim Hyong-chik University of Education, pointed out:

The fascist moves of the No Tae-u ruling group, backed by the U.S. imperialists, are the last-ditch efforts to stifle the anti- U.S., anti-"government" struggle and unification movement of patriotic students and people which are gaining momentum with each passing day and save the "6th Republic" from the ruling crisis.

But, fratricidal atrocity will not save them from the crisis of ruin but rather precipitate the doom of the dictator.

Hwang Sung-il, student of Pyongyang University of Physical Education, had this to say:

The wrath against No Tae-u, the murderer of student Kang Kyong-tae, is flaring up in the hearts of South Korean students and people as a flame of massive resistance to burn the citadel of fascism. They will not spoil the price of the blood shed by Kang Kyong-tae.

Kim Pok-sil, head of a workshop of the Pyongyang Textile Combine, pointed out:

Kang Kyong-tae murdered in South Korea is not only a son of his parents but a son of the entire parents in the North and the South as well and we parents are under an obligation to make the murderer pay for his blood.

All the parents in South Korea should turn surging resentment into a struggle and valiantly fight in the wake of their dear sons and daughters so that they may not be made victims of fascism.

The entire parents in the northern half of Korea will always extend full support and encouragement to the struggle of South Korean students and their parents and stand in the same rank with them.

More Criticism of Student Death

SK0505092291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0841 GMT 5 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—No Tae-u at the "Chongwadae" on May 2 had the effrontery to say that the death of student Kang Kyong-tae was a pity and he felt ashamed before the people and that such a murder should be the last untoward incident in the process of democratisation.

This is a ridiculous trick and clumsy farce of the murderer to smooth down the mounting public opinion at home and abroad and divert elsewhere the spearhead of the curses and protest of the people from him, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today, and continues:

It is a stereotyped method of the fascist ruling group to resort to such a double-faced trick as sword-brandishing and appeasement and deception each time the people's protest is mounting and its fascist rule is shaken to its very foundation in South Korea.

No Tae-u's "expression of apology" with phraseologies about "pity" and "shame" is an appeasement and deception aimed to cover up the true color as the murderer, mislead public opinion, save the confused political situation and bridge over the ruling crisis; it is a burlesque to put down the fighting spirit of the students and people.

As long as the fascist suppressive system persists, such fascist evil laws as the "National Security Law" and "Law of Combat Police Corps" remain in force and the fascist murderers like No stay in power, outcries for the "measure to prevent recurrence of incident" is nothing but a burlesque to hoodwink the people.

No Tae-u betrayed the true color of the fascist tyrant by threatening that forces undermining laws and order would be severely dealt with and illegal practices and violence should not be rampant on account of the campus problem, while talking about "regret" and "apology".

With thinly-veiled trick No Tae-u can never deceive anyone and never put down the desire and protests of the South Korean students and people to uproot the fascist murderous "regime" and realise democracy.

'Prayer Meetings' Denounce 'Murder'

SK0505110391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0912 GMT 5 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—Prayer meetings denouncing the brutal murder of student Kang Kyong-tae by the South Korean authorities were held at the Pongsu Church and Changchung Cathedral in Pyongyang today.

Present at the prayer meetings were believers in Pyongyang.

Yi Song-pong, chief priest, made a preach at the Pongsu Church.

The "rulers" in "power" of South Korea are punishing without hesitation innocent people, righteous people in particular, by the strength of fascist evil laws, in a bid to maintain their power, he said, and went on:

The brutal murder of the patriotic student was not an accident or misconduct by a few policemen's "excessive repression," but an inevitable consequence of the violence of the present rulers who are engaged in wholesale terrorism and massacre, as said by the South Korean students and people.

He called upon the fellow believers in the South to turn out like one man in the vigorous anti-fascist struggle for democracy and anti-imperialist struggle for independence as well as for human rights and democracy.

Chang Chae-chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Roman Catholics Association, gave a lecture at the Changchung Cathedral.

He indicted to the whole world and bitterly condemned the criminal act of the No Tae-u ruling group in trampling down human dignity and beating people to death.

The Roman Catholics in the North fully support the just struggle of the South Korean people of all walks of life and extend solidarity with them, he stressed, adding:

For our nation the reunification of the country is the supreme desire of the nation. The country should be reunified on the principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity within the 90s so as to ensure genuine independence and democracy to the South Korean people, too.

South Students Plan for Reunification Festival

SK0905154691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1522 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—"The National Council of Student Representatives" (Chondaehyop) of South Korea initiated a grand reunification festival of students in the North, the South and overseas and sent a letter to the Korean Students Committee and organisations of Korean students overseas on April 12.

In the letter Chondaehyop proposed to hold the grand reunification festival in Seoul, the venue of the pan-national rally, for two days and one night from forthcoming August 14 to 15 under the co-sponsorship of the Chondaehyop, the Korean Students Committee, the organisations of Korean students overseas and the "Pan-Korean Alliance for National Reunification" (Pomminnyon) and include in its program talks of students for reunification aimed at discussing a common proposal for reunification and discussing the questions of easing military tensions, achieving great national unity and strengthening organised solidarity among the students in the North, the South and overseas.

It also proposed to have "soccer tournament for Yim Su-kyong cup" and "concert of students in the North, the South and overseas for reunification" as part of the sports and cultural functions during the festival.

Chondaehyop said that the objective of the grand reunification festival is to confirm that our nation is one, smash the anti-reunification schemes of the splittists, expose the manoeuvrings of the group of splittists for fixing "two Koreas and the anti-reunification and anti-peace nature of their "theory of unifying systems", achieve great national unity, frustrate the moves of the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u dictatorial group to coil up military tensions and provoke a war, defuse tensions and create preconditions for the peaceful reunification of the country.

Chondaehyop expressed the belief that the Korean Students Committee and the organisations of Korean students overseas would positively respond to the propositions.

Committee Accepts Students' Plan

SK0905155291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1510 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—The Korean Student Committee expressed support to the proposal of the South Korean National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) to have a grand student festival for reunification.

Upon receiving a letter of Chondaehyop to it and organizations of overseas Korean students, the Korean Student Committee sent a reply letter on May 6, which says:

It is beyond doubt that if students in the North, South and overseas who do not want to live any longer in the divided country sit together, seek a common way of the nation for reunification and unite themselves, singing songs of reunification and playing sports games, it will immensely delight the fellow countrymen in their grand march for reunification.

The Korean Student Committee and all the students in the northern half of the country warmly welcome and fully support the proposal of Chondaehyop to have a grand festival of students in the North, South and overseas for reunification.

Acceding to your proposal to have talks for practical preparations for the festival slated for August 14 and 15, we will send our delegates to Panmunjom at ten on the morning of July 7.

At the working-level talks we may discuss matters concerning the successful holding of the festival as well as the issues of realising independent exchanges between students of the North and the South.

The letter calls for successfully holding the festival on August 14 and 15 at any cost in honor of history and the nation.

The entire students in the northern half of the country firmly believe that the fellow students in the South will fight to the end to successfully open the festival with the strong sense of responsibility for the time and the nation as their indomitable will and unswerving faith, says the letter.

Article: U.S. Campaign Alleged Against North

SK0905051991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0442 GMT 9 May 91

["U.S. Must Fulfil Its Duty Under NPT [Nonproliferation Treaty]"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—If the United States truly wants the removal of the danger of nuclear war on the Korean peninsula it must legally commit itself to nuclear safeguards for the DPRK, take practical measures for removing nuclear threat and immediately come out to the table of DPRK-U.S. negotiation proposed by the DPRK, instead of taking issue with the DPRK which does not have nuclear weapons or develop them. This is a practical measure for strengthening the nuclear nonproliferation system on the Korean peninsula and means that the U.S. discharges its duty under the Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), stresses NODONG SINMUN in a signed article today.

The article says:

While failing to sincerely carry out its duty under the NPT, the U.S. authorities are setting afloat the false rumour that the DPRK refuses the signing of the nuclear safeguards accord with the International Atomic Energy agency and its nuclear inspection and, as if it were not enough, are now making a fuss, alleging that the DPRK is "developing nuclear weapons."

Lurking behind the smear campaign persistently conducted by the U.S. imperialists is a sinister intention to decry the anti-war, anti-nuke peace position of the DPRK, impair its international prestige and isolate it through international pressure.

They also seek to conceal their criminal acts of increasing the danger of nuclear war in violation of the NPT.

The reason why we have not yet signed the nuclear safeguards accord with the International Atomic Energy Agency is that the peaceful climate and preconditions for the signing of the accord have not been created as the U.S. imperialists have turned South Korea into a nuclear forward base and increased nuclear threat to the DPRK.

It is self-evident that the DPRK cannot sign the nuclear safeguards accord at the risk of the sovereignty and vital rights of the nation at a time when the United States has deployed more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons in South Korea, continuously staged nuclear war manoeuvers and worked out the strategy of a new war against the DPRK and the puppet military boss of South Korea openly threatened to make a surprise attack on the North.

It is impudent of the United States to urge the DPRK to fulfil its duty while failing to discharge its own duty. It also totally contradicts the principle of impartiality recognised by international law.

We can never accept the arrogant demand of the United States that we sign the nuclear safeguards accord and allow nuclear inspection.

The United States, with which the NPT is deposited, must be more faithful to this treaty than any other country and sincerely carry out its duty.

Soviet Delegation Lays Wreath at Cemetery

SK0605062891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0600 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 6 (KCNA)—The delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR headed by Valentina S. Klibik, deputy chairperson of the Soviet of Nationalities of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, on a visit to Korea, laid a wreath in the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt. Taesong and before the Liberation Tower on May 5.

Present at the wreath-laying ceremonies were O Munhan, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean-Soviet Friendship Society and Aleksandr Kapto, Soviet ambassador to the DPRK.

The delegation observed a moment's silence in memory of the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs who dedicated their lives to the sacred cause of national liberation and the freedom and happiness of the people after laying a wreath in the cemetery.

The delegation observed a moment's silence in memory of the heroic Soviet soldiers and officers who fell in the battle to liberate Korea after laying a wreath before the Liberation Tower.

International Union Committee's Peace Statement

SK0605063091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0533 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 6 (KCNA)—The delegation of the International Trade Union Committee for Peace and Disarmament led by its President Campbell Christie published a statement here Sunday.

The delegation, going round various places of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, was deeply impressed by the creative work and socio-economic construction conducted by the Korean people and popular masses, the statement says, and notes:

The DPRK is making sincere efforts to preserve peace on the Korean peninsula despite the continued provocations on the part of the United States and the South Korean authorities including the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

The threat to peace on the Korean peninsula comes from South Korea, not from the North.

There is no ground for the United States to keep the U.S. forces nearly 50,000 strong and 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons in South Korea. We can never overlook the fact that the South Korean authorities built the concrete wall along the whole length of the Military Demarcation Line and seek to prolong Korea's division.

A permanant peace on the Korean peninsula can be achieved only through Korea's reunification.

Therefore, our Committee warmly welcomes the proposal for national reunification advanced by President Kim Il-song.

The United States and the South Korean authorities refuse to carry out the withdrawal of the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea. This is a great threat to the world peace. The International Trade Union Committee for Peace and Disarmament cannot but pay attention to this.

Saying that peace, disarmament and the country's reunification are a unanimous demand of the whole Korean people, the statement expresses full support to the Korean people's struggle for national reunification.

Pak Song-chol Addresses Anniversary Meeting

SK0905044191 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0728 GMT 4 May 91

[Speech by Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers's Party of Korea and vice president of the DPRK, at central report meeting held on 4 May at the Central Youth Hall, to mark the 55th anniversary of the founding of the Fatherland Restoration Society—live]

[Text] Comrades: Under the circumstances in which all people throughout the country are vigorously accelerating the great march movement of the nineties in order to occupy a new high hill of socialism with the might of singlehearted unity firmly rallied around the party and the leader, we today significantly greet the 55th anniversary of the founding of the Fatherland Restoration Society [FRS]. In the gloomy period of the Japanese imperialist rule, when the ordeal of the nation reached its climax 55 years ago, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song founded the FRS and achieved an all-national united front under the anti-Japanese banner. This was an epochal event of historic significance in the development of the anti-Japanese national liberation movement of our country. [applause] Recalling with dignity the immortal achievements registered by the FRS, our people are filled with the firm determination to consummate to the end the revolutionary cause of chuche, the socialist and communist cause which was pioneered on the sacred hill of Paektu under the leadership of the party and the leader. [applause]

Comrades: The FRS not only made outstanding contributions to achieving the cause of national liberation by realizing the unity of the nation, and thus by providing the strong main force of the revolution, but it also recorded a brilliant chapter in the history of our people's revolutionary struggle in which the popular masses victoriously carried out the cause of independence. [applause] Unity is the life of the nation and is the decisive guarantee which ensures independence and prosperity of the country as well as victory of the revolution. In the revolutionary struggle for the sovereignty of the nation, and in the construction to build a new society, if the nation unites then it wins victory, and if the nation splits then it cannot avoid failure and ruin. This is the truth of the revolution that the lesson of history has left. The nation's destiny and the solidness of its unity, which influences the success of the revolution, entirely depend upon the greatness of the leader who forms the center of that unity. Only the nation which holds the great leader in high esteem—that is to say, only the people who hold the great leader in high esteem—can achieve not only solid unity based on one ideology and one center, but can also form a strong single political force and victoriously pioneer the road of the revolution with their own strength by vigorously fighting their way through all sorts of trials and difficulties.

The founding of the FRS and the achievements of its struggle have occupied a brilliant chapter in the history of our people's revolutionary struggle because they vigorously prove the noble truth that when the center of unity is great and firm, then the nation can achieve its most solid unity and can display an invincible might in pioneering its destiny. [applause]

The national liberation movement of our country—which had to undergo split, vicissitudes, and repeated failure in the past due to the lack of a center of unity, the center of leadership—organized a strong nation-wide national united front organization for the first time in history, and thus vigorously led the entire nation to firmly unite and vigorously struggle for the cause of national liberation. This was because the national liberation movement held the great Comrade Kim Il-song in high esteem as the leader, and advanced following the immortal chuche idea of the leader and his excellent chuche-oriented revolutionary strategy. [applause]

Already in the early days of his embarkment on the road of the revolution, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song had elucidated the profound principle of chuche which says that only by relying on the popular masses, rallying them, and relying on their strength can the revolution be victorious; had clarified the excellent ideology with regard to firmly rallying the anti-Japanese patriotic forces of all walks of life; had set forth the line of the anti-Japanese national united front line as a chuche-oriented line for the revolution of the fatherland at the historic Chialun Conference; and had brilliantly embodied the line in the course of the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

The line of the anti-Japanese national united front set forth by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song was a revolutionary line which made it possible to firmly build the main force of our revolution by rallying broad patriotic people in the joint front against the Japanese imperialists and, thus, to victoriously carry out the Korean revolution with our people's own strength. It was also a scientific line which elucidated the most correct way of organizing the revolutionary forces based on his deep analysis of the contemporary social and economic situation and the contemporary relationship among classes.

As the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song elucidated his unique united front ideology and line and energetically led the struggle for their realization the Korean revolution was able not only to achieve unity of the broad patriotic forces on the basis of the Worker-Peasant Alliance led by the working class, but also to vigorously advance, relying on the solid mass foundation.

That the FRS was founded and its 10-point program was declared at the historic Tungkang Conference in May 1936 was the epochal success of having developed the movement for anti-Japanese national united front of our country into a new stage based on the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's historic achievements of having built the chuche-oriented revolutionary ranks for 10 years from the dawn of the revolution to the first half of the thirties.

This brilliant victory—which made it possible for the entire nation to have one political program and a pannational united front organization—was the noble fruition produced by the excellent ideology, the leadership prestige, the outstanding revolutionary stragegy, and the noble character of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song. It was also a historic event which showed that the greatness of the leader is not only the powerful centripetal force to achieve great unity of the nation, but is also the basic guarantee for building the strong indepedent main force of the revolution. [applause]

Amid infinite deep emotion and excitement the Korean communists and people upheld the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as chairman of the with the unanimous desire [word indistinct] and vowed to more staunchly struggle for the country's independence and national liberation under the leadership of the leader. [applause]

This was not only an expression of the absolute trust and loyalty of all of our people toward the great Comrade Kim Il-song's excellent ideology and leadership, but was also an expression of the firm will to revere and hold in high esteem the respected and beloved leader as the sun of the nation and the lodestar of national liberation and to fight to the end under the leadership of the leader while entrusting the destiny of the country and the nation to him.

The founding of the FRS by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song at a time when the fate of the nation was gravely at stake in which the artery of the nation could be cut off provided a turning point that brought about an epochal upturn in the struggle to achieve the cause of fatherland restoration by dint of the nation on its own by leading the Korean people's anti-Japanese struggle for national liberation onto a new plane of upswing. [applause]

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: With the founding of the FRS, the anti-Japanese movement for united national front rapidly developed in a more organized and systematic manner and nationwide in close conjunction with the anti-Japanese armed struggle, enabling all the anti-imperialist forces to be organized and mobilized vigorously for the struggle to liberate the country.

The founding of the FRS was the birth of a body of a true chuche-type united national front—the first of its kind in the history of the protracted struggle of the Korean people for the independence of the country and national sovereignty—and it was the advent of a great political organization that rallied the popular masses, the master of the revolution, as one organized force and enabled them to carry out their role as an independent main force of the revolution in conformity with the demand of the new era of history and the era of chuche.

With the founding of the FRS, the anti-Japanese movement for united national front of our country advanced onto a higher stage where the pannational unity was firmly realized with the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as a rallying point based on a strong permanent organization, and was successfully expanded and developed on a national and pannational basis in close conjunction with the anti-Japanese armed struggle of the integrated united front movement.

The founding of the FRS became a driving force for the expansion and development of the international antifascist people's movement which was then being materialized, encouraging greatly the antifascist and anti-imperialist struggle of the people of the world. With its founding, the FRS proclaimed its scientific and original anti-imperialist and antifeudalistic program for democratic revolution embodying the great chuche idea, exercising its great driving force in rallying the entire nation for the anti-Japanese united front, providing a way to brilliantly solve all the problems arising in the revolution in our own style from the rigorous standpoint of chuche in conformity with the reality of the country. This is the profound historical significance of the FRS. [applause]

The 10-point program of the FRS which brilliantly embodied the theory, strategy, and tactics on the anti-imperialist and antifeudalistic revolution for democracy elucidated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song for the first time in history was an anti-imperialist and antifeudalistic program that perfectly conforms with the Korean people's demands and aspirations for national and class liberation, and it was an original program of democratic revolution which scientifically reflected the demands of the supreme program of revolutionary party of the working class.

The 10-point program which the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song wrote word by word putting into it his noble love for the fatherland and his profound chuche ideology endlessly moved all the Korean people because it most precisely reflected the historical long-cherished desire of the entire nation for national liberation and the independence of the country and the interests of the masses of all walks of life, including the workers and peasants. It became the banner of struggle and banner of unity that made the blood of the entire nation boil with patriotism and made them launch themselves as one into the fatherland restoration front. [applause]

On the strength of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's absolute prestige and noble character and using its 10-point program and the declaration of its founding as an invincible driving force, the FRS was strengthened and developed into a broad and powerful underground revolutionary mass organization which included hundreds of thousands of people from all walks of life only months after its founding. The organizational network of the FRS was expanded to the area covering the northern part of Korea, including Mt. Paektu, North and South Hamgyong Provinces, North and South Pyongan Provinces, Kangwon Province, Hwanghae Province, Kyonggi Province, North Kyongsang Province, many cities and rural and fishing villages throughout the country, the wide area of northeast region of China, and even Japan.

From the first day of its founding, under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song the FRS not only played a great role in our people's struggle for national liberation and for the victory of the revolution, but also extraordinarily strengthened the main force of the revolution and, thus, provided the solid foundation which firmly guaranteed the victory of the cause of national liberation. Through its active activities the FRS not only more firmly deepened and consolidated the foundation of the anti-Japanese armed struggle among the masses and vigorously inspired the victorious advance of the anti-Japanese armed struggle, but also combined the people's anti-Japanese struggles in various areas into a sacred war for national liberation. Thus, the FRS made great contributions to effecting great upsurges in the overall Korean revolution, including the armed struggle against the Japanese imperialists.

Through its various forms of vigorous organizational and political work the FRS actively accelerated the work of making the popular masses conscious and getting them organized in a bid to rally all of the anti-Japanese patriotic forces around the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. The FRS also fostered numerous new communist revolutionaries of the chuche type and achieved the Korean communist movement's unity of ideological will. Thus, the FRS greatly contributed to strengthening the party's foundation among the masses.

As the organizations of the FRS were rapidly expanded throughout the country and the cohesion and unity of the anti-Japanese national liberation movement was achieved, the unitary leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in the overall Korean revolution was firmly realized.

The Korean communists and people firmly united as one and heroically fought under the banner of national liberation, holding in high esteem the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as the center of unity and the center of leadership. And eventually they achieved the victory of the anti-Japanese revolution and won the historic cause of national liberation. [applause]

Indeed, the struggle achievements of the FRS, which was founded and led by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, were the glorious revolutionary achievements which clearly showed that the great unity of the fatherland was because of the existence of the great leader and that the powerful main force of the revolution firmly rallied around the leader was the decisive driving force which ensured all the victories in the cause of national liberation, the cause of the people's independence. After national liberation these glorious revolutionary achievements became the revolutionary assets which were infinitely precious in the people's struggle for building a new society. [applause]

Following national liberation, our people had no choice but to start building a new society under difficult conditions—the national territory was divided into two, and democrats and reactionaries, revolution and counterrevolution stood in the most acute confrontation.

However, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song bound all the people as a political force by brilliantly inheriting the tradition and noble accomplishment of great national unity, which he had achieved in the flames of the anti-Japanese revolution, and by increasing the might of the political force in all directions, thereby firmly ensuring the revolutionary force's superiority over the counterrevolutionary force and victoriously exploring the untrodden path of realizing the socialist cause.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, taking the lead in achieving national liberation and in building a new fatherland, made a meaningful speech at a welcome rally in Pyongyang. It was a historic declaration of the nation-loving, people-loving, democracy-loving people's will to build a new democratic Korea in firm unity. Our people's cause of building a new fatherland could advance victoriously, even under such a complicated situation, because all the patriotic and democratic forces have actively risen up in national construction, uniting firmly around the democratic national united front at the urge of the respected and beloved leader, with the physically powerful lending power, with intellectuals offering knowledge, and with the wealthy providing money.

Thanks to the united strength of the broad range of the masses from all walks of life, including the workers and peasants who are united as one under the banner of democracy, a true people's government was established based on their warm support and positive participation, as well as democratic reforms of all descriptions; the cause of founding the Democratic People's Republic was successfully carried out; and a powerful revolutionary base capable of guaranteeing national sovereignty and endless happiness for the people was created.

It was also a brilliant victory brought by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's outstanding (?theory) on great national unity that in the beginning of the construction of a new society he convened the joint meeting of the representatives of the political parties and public organizations of South and North Korea in defiance of the U.S. imperialists' and their stooges' vicious splittist maneuvers, and later opened the expansive road of uniting the patriotic forces of the entire nation under the banner of the anti-U.S. struggle for national salvation by founding the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland.

It was an event of significance that has demonstrated the fact that all the people who love the nation and people can sit together and pool their will and strength for national reunification and national independence, transcending the differences in political views, religious views, and class standings. [applause]

The proud history of the revolutionary unity and national harmony attained by our people under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is a brilliant history of struggle in which the entire revolutionary ranks have independently and creatively carried out the revolutionary struggle and construction projects in conformity with our people's demands and in the fundamental interest of our people by firmly rallying around the party and leader, cherishing the faith in chuche under any adverse circumstance. [applause]

Our party and our people, unswervingly adhering to the banner of chuche under any changes of the situation and firmly uniting each other with a single ideological will, have greatly solved the tasks of the democratic and socialist revolution in our own style by following the chuche-oriented line and policy expounded by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in conformity with the situation of our country and the revolutionary aspiration of our people.

Highly upholding the lines of independence, self-reliance, and self-defense put forward by the respected and beloved leader, the entire party and people, firmly uniting each other, have more brilliantly embodied [word indistinct] in a heroic manner at a new higher stage of development of the revolution.

By giving priority to the work of remodeling human beings, and by thoroughly implementing the revolutionary mass line, all members of society, under the wise leadership of the party, have accomplished the unity of the consolidated ideological will based on the chuche idea. In addition, they have firmly united each other with a sublime camaraderie and revolutionary sense of duty, and have been linked to a social and political organic body with which the leader, party, and masses are sharing their fate. Thereby, they have made the strong independent idea of chuche something which cannot be broken by any might.

With a single ideological will, all people have united as one around the party and leader. This becomes the greatest victory in the glorious history of our revolution, which our people have won and have advanced under the banner of unity. Furthermore, the invincible might and the source of solidity of our socialism lies here; the secret lies here under which our people, upholding the banner of the revolution without wavering, go on without a stop in the vortex of the rapid changes of history. [applause]

In the whole course of the protracted struggle to realize national independence, the ideology of "When all of the nation realizes a great unity," which our party has consistently maintained, has been deeply cherished as the common idea of the nation in the hearts of all people in the North and South, as well as all overseas compatriots, in carrying out today's cause for national reunification. It has also been a great driving force in expanding and developing the movement of national reunification.

Under the banner of the great unity of the nation which our party highly upholds, and in the course of turning the movement of national reunification into a nation-wide movement, the 18 August pan-national meeting was held last year for the first time since the history of the division amid the great expectation and interest of all the people. The Pan-national Alliance for Reunification of the Fatherland was formed, which was composed of the compatriots in the North, South, and overseas compatriots as well as people from all walks of life. This was because reunification of the fatherland is an event that has an epocal significance in strengthening the chuche-oriented capability and in expanding the reunification movement on a national scale. This was also a valuable fruit which resulted from a lofty faith of the great unity of the nation. [applause]

All victories and successes that our people have registered in the revolution and construction since the FRS was founded and, thus, the banner of its 10-point program began to fly, prove with brilliant reality that the cause of the people who firmly unite around the party and the leader and pioneer their destinies is invincible under any difficult circumstances. Indeed, the road of history on which the Korean revolution has traversed has been the proud road on which the nation's destiny has been saved, the country's independence and sovereignty have been defended, and our people's struggle for socialism and communism has been victorious thanks to the great revolutionary ideology of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who has led our revolution to the single road of chuche without faltering, and his wise leadership. [applause]

At this significant meeting where we commemorate the 55th anniversary of the founding of the FRS, with the infinite reverence and burning loyalty of all of the people throughout the country, I extend the utmost honor and the warmest gratitude to Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and our leader, who achieved the historic cause of national liberation by inspiring the entire nation to join the sacred war against Japan and by organizing and leading it to a brilliant victory, who has built on this land the most superior socialism of our style which has embodied the chuche idea, and who has, thus, bestowed today's infinite happiness and glory upon our people. [applause]

Comrades: Our people who have waged the protracted and arduous struggle for the victory of the revolutionary cause of chuche are today standing at the important turning point of history. Keeping deeply in mind our noble mission and sense of responsibility for the times and the nation we should consistently push ahead with the sacred cause of building a socialist paradise on this land with the indomitable fighting spirit and firm faith in victory.

For our people who have undergone the bitter sufferings and misfortune of national division for half a century, there is no more urgent and pressing task than to achieve national reunification. That our people who live on the same land and with the same blood are still suffering the tragedy of division is totally because of the splittist maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique and their policy of war. The maneuvers and intrigues of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique to destroy peace in our country, to bring the dark clouds of war there, and, thus, to lay obstacles to the road of the country's peaceful reunification have become more vicious and unscrupulous with each passing day. And these manuevers and intrigues have reached an extreme point today.

The U.S. imperialists, with swelled heads after the War in the Gulf, have already made provocations for another war in Korea an established fact and are frantically inciting a war, designating the period of war and the number of reinforcements to be hurled into the war. Under the instigation of the U.S. imperialists, the South Korean puppet clique is stepping up the northern policy and unilateral UN membership maneuvers in a bid to legalize two Koreas and bringing the situation to the brink of war, taking issue with nonexistent nuclear facilites in the North and going so far as to make a bellicose outburst threathening to surprise and destroy the atomic reactor facilities of the North.

We will never tolerate any attempt to keep our country divided into two Koreas forever and to plunge our people into the scourge of nuclear war, but will resolutely fight against it, defending the dignity and destiny of the nation.

Achieving the national reunification by every means and checking and frustrating the maneuvers of the separatists at home and abroad is the unbreakable will of all Korean people and the trend of history which no one can block.

Today youth, students, workers, farmers, and the people from all walks of life in South Korea are rallied behind various organizations, including the National Council for University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop], National Democratic Alliance of Korea [Chonminnyon], National Council of Workers Movement [Chonnohyop], Coalition for National Farmers Movement [Chonnong] and National Teachers Union [Chongyojo], even amid the continued cruel repression of the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u military fascist clique, and are courageously fighting, rising in the sacred struggle for sovereignty of the nation and for national reunification.

This vigorously shows that the reunification movement in South Korea has been carried out in a more organic manner and is expanding and developing into a mass movement.

The South Korean youth, students, and people from all walks of life are carrying out the just struggle for independence, democracy and reunification without yielding by cherishing the lofty spirit for national independence and firm will for reunification even amid difficult conditions. We extend ardent and firm solidarity to them. [applause]

Great obstacles and difficulties are still laid on the road to national reunification. However, whether or not we can achieve national reunification finally depends on how our people themselves struggle.

The main force of national reunification is all the Korean people. In order to expedite national reunification, all the people should realize the great unity. Just as they fought in firm unity with a united front by highly upholding the banner of national liberation in the past, all the Korean people should form a pannational united front based on the principle of giving priority to the common interest of the nation, not discriminating their past status and difference in classes, ideologies, political views, and religion. Thus, they should expedite accomplishing the cause of reunification.

All political parties, public organizations and people from all walks of life in the North, the South, and overseas should square their assertions with actions in the joint front for national reunification, should cooperate with each other, and should vigorously wage the mass movement for peace and reunification.

The important issue in achieving great national unity is to encourage political forces including each party and each faction, not discriminating between the ruling, opposition, and dissident parties, and the people from all walks of life, who wish national reunification, to actively hold dialogue for reunification without any restriction.

Talks between the authorities cannot be the only channel for North-South dialogue. The South Korean authorities do not try to advance the talks between the authorities. They should discard narrow-minded and self-righteous attitude of blocking even the dialogue between politicians other than those in authority and between civilians. They should abolish laws which regard the North as the enemy and should immediately release figures from all walks of life and patriotic people who were unjustly arrested and imprisoned including those who visited the North. Thus, they should ensure the just right for all the South Korean people so that they can freely contact and hold dialogue with the North.

Our party and the government of the Republic are keeping the door for reunification dialogue open to all people. We ardently support the zeal for reunification and will for dialogue of each political party, each faction, and the people from all walks of life in South Korea. We will make active efforts to further expand and develop the dialogue and negotiations for national reunification in various forms.

The way to achieve national reunification peacefully and promptly by ending the nation's division and by realizing mutual reconciliation and unity between the North and the South as the same state is to realize the method of reunification through a confederal system based on one nation and one state and two systems and two governments—the great principle for national reunification advanced by us.

Our proposal for achieving reunification based upon a confedral system is positively supported and approved today not only by the people of the northern half of the Republic but also by the compatriots from all walks of life in South Korea and overseas because it is the most just and realistic proposal under which the reunification of the country can be achieved independently and peacefully under circumstances in our county in which two different systems exist in the North and South.

If they are truly interested in the reunification of the country, the South Korean authorities, after giving up their national division maneuvers and their foolish dream of achieving reunification after prevailing over communism, must accept our proposal for achieving reunification based upon a confedral system and must positively respond to our proposal for convening a political consultative conference, which we advanced to reach a pannational agreement on ways to reunify the fatherland.

Joining forces with all the fellow countrymen, our people, filled with hope and confidence in victory, will crush the maneuvers of the divisionists at home and abroad and vigorously wage a noble struggle to reunify the country. In this way, they will brighten the 1990's as the era of historic reunification of the fatherland without fail. [applause]

Strongly building a revolutionary base on the northern half of the Republic is an important guarantee for strengthening the might of our socialism and for hastening the cause of reunifying the fatherland. We must continuously uphold the banner of three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural; build a revolutionary base that is strong politically, economically, and militarily; and further consolidate the single-minded unity of our revolutionary ranks around the party and the leader.

Taking great pride in carrying out the revolution by upholding the great leader and the great party without being shaken at all no matter what wind may blow and no matter where it may blow from, the entire party, the entire army, and all the people, being one in body and spirit, must unchangingly and persistently struggle along the single revolutionary road elucidated by our leader and our party.

By purely inheriting the honorable revolutionary tradition, which was established by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, all the party members and workers must firmly maintain and inherit the chuche-oriented blood line of our revolution under any circumstances, and must complete the chuche revolutionary cause to the end after overcoming all difficulties in the same spirit with which the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs fought in the forests of Mt. Paektu.

Accelerating socialist construction is one of the most important tasks for consolidating and completing the chuche-oriented socialism. By highly displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and arduous struggle in hearty response to the party's revolutionary slogan "Let us live our style," all the functionaries, party members, and workers must bring great new revolutionary upsurges on all the fronts of socialist construction to completely display the might and superiority of our socialism.

The chuche-oriented socialist cause is a noble cause that is carried out under the party's leadership, and a decisive guarantee for victory in this cause lies in thoroughly implementing the party's leadership in all the fields of revolution and construction. By thoroughly establishing the party's leadership system in all the fields and units, loyally upholding the party's leadership, and highly displaying the revolutionary virtue of absoluteness and unconditionality in implementing the party's lines, policies, and decisions, we must ensure that the party's intention and ideas are brilliantly implemented in all the fields of revolution and construction.

The revolutionary cause of our people who are resolutely marching along the chuche road, the socialist road, after being single-mindedly united under the wise leadership of the party and the leader, is ever-victorious and invincible, and the future of our people is very brilliant. [applause]

Let us all struggle for a new victory in the revolution by upholding the banner of the chuche idea and the banner of three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—and by being strongly united around the Party Central Committee led by respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song. [applause]

Long live the great leader of our party and our people Comrade Kim Il-song! [applause]

Long live the honorable WPK, the organizer and leader [yongdoja] of all the Korean people's victories! [applause]

WPK's 'Anti-War, Anti-Nuke' Policy Viewed

SK0805111391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1015 GMT 8 May 91

["Anti-War, Anti-Nuke Peace Is Our Party's Consistent Position"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—Anti-war, anti-nuke peace is the unshakable position of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the fundamental principle of its foreign policy, declares NODONG SINMUN in a signed article today.

It says:

The current of the international situation more clearly proves the justness of our party's anti-war, anti-nuke peace policy.

Our party's anti-war, anti-nuke peace policy is run through with the idea of averting a nuclear war and defending peace through struggle.

In order to avert a nuclear war and preserve peace, the world people must firmly unite and vigorously wage the anti-war, anti-nuke struggle.

The peaceloving people throughout the world must not be taken in by the deceptive propaganda of the imperialists about "detente," "disarmament" and "peace" but continue to vigorously wage the anti-war, anti-nuke peace struggle with concerted efforts and resolutely check and foil the imperialists' nuclear arms buildup and nuclear war provocation moves.

Our party clearly laid down the policy and ways of averting a nuclear war through struggle.

Our party consistently maintains that the test, production and deployment of nuclear weapons must be prohibited, the existing nuclear weapons be reduced, furthermore, all the nuclear weapons be destroyed totally, nuclear-free, peace zones be established in different parts and gradually expanded throughout the world.

Our party set it as the primary task to prevent a nuclear war and preserve a durable peace on the Korean peninsula, made many peace overtures including the proposal for converting the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone and repeatedly urged the United States to show a constructive response.

When the Korean peninsula is turned into a nuclear-free, peace zone, one of the most dangerous hotbeds of nuclear war in the world will be removed and a great progress be made in preserving peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

KULLOJA Urges Struggle To Defend Unity

SK0905030691 Pyongyang KULLOJA in Korean No. 2 Feb 91, pp 3-9

[KULLOJA Editorial Bureau special article: "Let Us Add Luster to the Tradition of the Wholehearted Unity Being Firmly Inherited Generation After Generation"]

[Text] The party believes in the people, and the people follow and completely depend on our party for their future. The party and the people have united as one in body and spirit. This is the traditional aspect of our party and people and is precisely the wellspring of the invincibility of our revolution.

Our party, in the struggle, regards the masses of the people as the root of its existence and as the source of its endless vitality. The masses of the people share their destiny with the party by believing that the party is their body and soul. The party and the masses of the people being one in body and spirit which nothing can destroy, our party could successfully accomplish the difficult and complicated tasks of founding the new democratic Korea following the liberation, could overcome the severe trials during the Fatherland Liberation War, and, by struggling arduously and by healing the wounds of the war in a brief period, could build the powerful independent and self-reliant socialist country able to defend itself. Thanks to the might of our party and the wholehearted unity between the party and the people, our people are continuing to vigorously move forward along the single road of socialism, believing in the correctness of their cause and having faith in victory, at a time when the country is still divided and when the imperialists' antisocialist maneuvers are becoming even more blatant than ever.

We must unfalteringly strengthen the unity and cohesion of our revolutionary ranks in any vortex of history, and who led them along the road of the rewarding struggle, was a duty of revolutionaries and a due obligation. So they continued to gallantly struggle till the end of their lives by being faithful to the pledge of loyalty and to the revolutionary commitment.

The relations between the leader and the warriors and the relations among the warriors, who were solid in noble comradeship based on the loyalty to the leader, strengthened the unity and cohesion of the anti-Japanese revolutionary ranks as the most genuine, most solid, and most vital ones.

The greatness of the tradition of the unity and cohesion achieved by the young communists and patriots of the anti-Japanese revolution was also attributable to the establishment of a monolithic body of ideology and will that is based on the revolutionary ideology of the leader—the chuche idea.

The foundation of the unity and cohesion of the party is the revolutionary ideology of the leader, and the unity and cohesion of the working class party are the ones of ideology and will based on the revolutionary ideology of the leader. It is impossible to safeguard the ideological purity of the ranks of the party and realize the unity in action without being based on the revolutionary ideology of the leader, who is the founder of the party.

In the course of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, the young communists and anti-Japanese patriots accepted the revolutionary ideology of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song—the chuche idea and revolutionary line—as the most suitable one, took it as a belief and faith, and firmly united under its banner in moving forward.

The revolutionary ideology of the great leader—the chuche idea—was the beacon illuminating the correct path of the Korean revolution and was the banner of unity rallying the anti-Japanese revolutionary ranks into a powerful political force.

The young communists and anti-Japanese revolutionary patriots maintained the revolutionary ideology of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song—the chuche idea—as a faith. They took it as an inviolable guiding principle, and firmly united in ideology and will based on that, thus forming the purest unified body of ideology and will that the people had ever seen. On the road of defending the revolutionary ideology of the great leader—the chuche idea—they never moved backward because they maintained an unfailing faith and ironclad will. By so doing, they removed all the rubbish of factionalism, flunkeyism, and nihilism and ensured that only the revolutionary ideology of the respected and beloved leader—the chuche idea—remained prevalent in the revolutionary ranks. It was thanks to the ironclad unity in ideology and will that the anti- Japanese revolutionary ranks, based on a single ideology—the chuche idea—could resolutely overcome such severe difficulties and trials and could embroider the course of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle with heroic epics.

The young communists and anti-Japanese revolutionary patriots set a noble example in achieving rock-solid unity and cohesion in ideology and will by maintaining the revolutionary ideology of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song—the chuche idea—as a faith and by depending on it. This, with its great vitality and attraction, has today become a precious ideological and spiritual treasure which cheers the party members and working people endlessly.

The tradition of the wholehearted unity of the revolutionary ranks that the great leader established during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle has been uninterruptedly inherited at every stage of the revolutionary development, fully displaying its invincible might and vitality.

Our people continued to resolutely defend the tradition of the wholehearted unity established by the great leader, brilliantly inheriting and developing it. Thus, they could pass the periods of trials with the might of the wholehearted unity of the party and people. They also could successfully accomplish difficult and heavy revolutionary tasks, highly display the honor of the fatherland and nation, and achieve the prosperity and development of the country.

During those severe days of the war, the 10 party members of Nagwon firmly believed that the fatherly leader was their prop. So they could accelerate the day of the victory in the war by displaying the spirit of being absolute and unconditional and the spirit of unyielding struggle in the struggle to implement the intent of the respected and beloved leader. During those difficult days when we were reconstructing the country after the ravages of the war by surmounting the challenges of the enemies within and without, by ardently and loyally upholding the appeal of the respected and beloved leader, who said that the country could rise again if we additionally could have just 10,000 tons of steel, the working class of Kangson created a miracle by producing 120,000 tons of steel billet with a 60,000-ton capacity blooming mill. As a result of this, the torch of the Chollima campaign was lit across the country. The heroic struggles fought by the 10 party members of Nagwon and by the working class of Kangson show how loftily the wholehearted unity of the party and people was displayed in those difficult days of our revolution and how deeply it was cherished in the hearts of the people. Then, the moving story of the elderly woman of Taesong who trusted and followed only the respected and beloved leader in those critical days when the antiparty and antirevolutionary factionalists were openly challenging our party, and who expressed her faith in victory by telling the fatherly leader that there were now no problems in the people's livelihood so the fatherly leader should anguish no more, and that we, not the factionalists, would be victorious, and also the loyalty and filial obedience which the No. two cell party members of the Fifth Bureau of the Korean Central News Agency displayed today show, in a living epic, that the inseparable unity between the party and the people, the wholehearted unity between them, has been unceasingly inherited and strengthened through all phases of our revolution.

In this way, the tradition of the wholehearted unity of our party is being brilliantly inherited generation after generation, and it has now become an immortal revolutionary treasure for the consolidation and development of our party and the victorious advance of the revolutionary cause.

2. The shining tradition of the wholehearted unity is being brilliantly inherited and developed on the new high stage of our revolution, where the party and society are permeated with the chuche idea under the wise leadership of our party, and the invincible unity and cohesion of the party and the people are being strengthened even further.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, regarding it as a basic issue for the party's and revolution's future to strengthen and develop the wholehearted unity of the party and people generation after generation, has continued to attach primary importance to developing the unity and cohesion of the party generation after generation according to the new historic conditions of the revolutionary development. Thus he has wisely led the struggle toward this end.

Our party has exercised wise leadership, particularly in firmly defending the nucleus of the unity and cohesion, to inherit and develop the tradition of the wholehearted unity.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and secretary of the Party Central Committee, has noted: The unity and cohesion of the party must be achieved around a single nucleus.

As everything in the world has its nucleus and functions and develops based on its nucleus, a center such as a nucleus is necessary for achieving the unity and cohesion of the revolutionary ranks. The center of unity and cohesion is precisely the leader [yongdoja] of the revolution—the leader [suryong]. Unity cannot be strong if it is not achieved around the leader. Only when the party and the people unite around the leader as one, can the party and the revolutionary ranks be invincible and can the revolutionary cause be vigorously pushed ahead.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il has brilliantly inherited and developed the tradition of the unity and cohesion established during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and has brilliantly achieved the most solid unity and cohesion under which all people have united into a single sociopolitical organic body around the party and the leader.

In our country, under the wise leadership of the party, the wholehearted unity between the party and the people has been brilliantly achieved around the party and the leader on the noblest stage. All people have firmly united around the party and the leader, and the society has been strengthened into an everlasting sociopolitical organic body. This is precisely a result of the wisdom and greatness of our party's leadership.

In the course of the struggle to permeate the party and the society with the chuche idea, our party has also strengthened the organizational and ideological foundation of the unity and cohesion which would be firmly inherited generation after generation.

Defending the organizational and ideological foundation of the unity and cohesion which the leader established at the time of the inception of the revolution and developing it generation after generation is a preferential requirement for strengthening and developing the wholehearted unity of the revolutionary ranks.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il has formulated the revolutionary ideology of the respected and beloved leader—the chuche idea—into a monolithic system of chuche-oriented ideas, concepts, and methods. He has developed and enriched it with new theoretical ingredients, and, by regarding it as a basic line of the party construction to establish a monolithic ideological system of the party and by thoroughly putting this into practice in implementing the party work, has further strengthened the ideological foundation of the wholehearted unity which would be inherited generation after generation.

Today, under the wise leadership of the party, all members of the society have united into a unified body of ideology and will based only on a single ideology—the chuche idea—and into the invincible ranks never susceptible to any alien ideas.

At the same time, the organizational foundation of the unity and cohesion of the party has been strengthened and the leadership system of the party has been firmly established in the party and the society.

The party of the working class can safeguard its organizational nucleus generation after generation and can achieve the wholehearted unity between the leader, the party, and the people at a new level only when it is strong organizationally and when the leadership system is correctly established.

According to the demand of the revolution to permeate the party and the society with the chuche idea, our party has further strengthened the organizational foundation of the wholehearted unity by nurturing the ranks of cadres—the main force of the revolution—into functionaries who are fundamentally loyal to the party and to the leader and who are able and talented, and by wisely leading the work to strengthen the ranks of the party qualitatively.

Our party has wisely led the cadres and party members so that they may possess a correct organizational outlook, faithfully participate in the organizational life of the party, and link their organizational life closely with the revolutionary practice. As a result, the ranks of the party have been revolutionarily disciplined and qualitatively strengthened.

Establishing the leadership system of the party is an important issue in safeguarding the nucleus of the unity and cohesion of the party generation after generation and in uniting the people around the party and the leader.

In itself our party has established the revolutionary spirit of unconditionally accepting party decision and direction and thoroughly implementing them without deviation, established the strong revolutionary discipline of swiftly bringing the important problems of principle in the revolution and construction to the party center, and established the system and order under which all in the party act in unison under the monolithic leadership of the party center. As a result of this, the revolutionary spirit is prevalent in our party in accepting party decision and policy as an absolute truth and in implementing them thoroughly, the revolutionary discipline and order under which the party and the people act in unison under the monolithic leadership of the party center have been established, and the organizational foundation of the unity and cohesion has been further strengthened.

Our party's leadership exercised in inheriting and developing the tradition of the wholehearted unity is shining in the fact that the wholehearted unity between the leader, the party, and the people is being further strengthened in comradeship, in duty, and in responsibility.

The wholehearted unity of the revolutionary ranks can be most viable and powerful, when it is based on revolutionary comradeship and duty.

It is a noble aspect of our society and a pride of the wholehearted unity of the party and the people that the party, as a benevolent mother, conducts the politics of love and trust and the people regard the party as a prop of their life and share joy and sorrow with the party by uniting as one. The leader of the revolution and the people have been linked by an inseparable blood lineage and the leader, the party, and the people have united into an everlasting sociopolitical organic body based on revolutionary comradeship and duty. This is precisely the wellspring of the invincible might of our party and revolutionary ranks and the greatness of the leadership of our party.

With its solid center, with its pure organizational and ideological foundation, and with its noble blood lineage, the wholehearted unity of our party and people which is inherited and developed generation after generation under the wise leadership of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il is indeed the most powerful, dynamic, and invincible one which people have never seen before in the history of the communist movement.

The wholehearted unity of our party and people will shine forever and ever as the great banner of the revolution which will never fade away, and as the wellspring of the might which would guarantee the complete victory of the Korean revolution, no matter how much time may pass and how far the revolution may advance. With this great and invincible unity and cohesion, our party and people are demonstrating their prestige and honor as the great party and as the great people moving forward only along the single road of victory by overcoming all difficulties and trials.

3. For the future of the revolution, the struggle to strengthen the wholehearted unity still remains as a very important task, as it was important in the past. We can never indulge in self-conceit with what we have achieved. We must continue to vigorously struggle to defend the unity and cohesion of the party and ceaselessly strengthen and develop it generation after generation.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and secretary of the Party Central Committee, has noted: Our revolution has not ended yet. We must continue to struggle arduously. As long as imperialism and opportunism exist and as long as the class struggle is in progress, we must ceaselessly intensify the struggle for the unity and cohesion of the party. (Booklet "The Workers Party of Korea Is a Chuche-Type Revolutionary Party Which Inherited the Glorious Tradition of the Down-With-Imperialism Union," pp 36-37)

Today we are facing a very difficult and heavy task to vigorously accelerate the socialist construction, to occupy the high peaks of socialism in the 1990's, and to achieve the reunification cause as soon as possible. We have to accomplish this heavy task when the imperialists and all kinds of reactionaries are further intensifying their antisocialist and anti-Republic commotions.

We must unceasingly strengthen the main force of the revolution in order to brilliantly consummate the socialist cause by successfully overcoming difficulties and trials on the road of the revolution and by vigorously pushing the revolution and construction forward. In this respect, it is very important to strengthen the party and the wholehearted unity between the party and the people.

What is more important than anything else in strengthening the unity and cohesion of the party today is to rally the party and people around the party center.

All functionaries must unceasingly intensify the work to brilliantly inherit and develop the tradition of the unity and cohesion of the party established by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song and to strengthen and develop the wholehearted unity of our party generation after generation.

Strengthening and developing the unity and cohesion of the party generation after generation mean to guarantee a complete and unconditional unity in ideology, will, and deed with the party center at the center and with the party ideology as a basis, and to defend its purity.

Strengthening and developing the unity and cohesion of the party generation after generation are the very important tasks linked with the future of the party and revolution and with the destiny of the nation. They are the strategic tasks which must be grappled with all the time in the party construction. When we brilliantly inherit the tradition of the wholehearted unity and strengthen and develop the invincible unity and cohesion of the party around the party center generation after generation, we can strengthen the main force of the revolution, unceasingly enhance its roles, defend the glorious blood lineage of the revolution, and victoriously carry out the revolutionary cause of our people, no matter how complicated the situation may be.

All party organizations and functionaries, by following the noble examples of the anti-Japanese revolutionary patriots who politically and ideologically defended the respected and beloved leader by sacrificing their lives, must firmly unite around the party center and defend the purity of the unity and cohesion of the party like their lives.

Achieving the monolithic leadership of the party center completely is a matter of principle which comes to the fore in strengthening and developing the unity and cohesion of the party generation after generation. The functionaries must completely guarantee the monolithic leadership of the party center in all areas of the party work and activities.

Only when the leadership of the party is completely guaranteed in all areas of the party work and activities, can the unity be firmly guaranteed in ideology, will, and deed around the party center and the revolution and construction be vigorously carried out according to the party plan and intent.

Achieving the monolithic leadership of the party center over the party work and activities essentially means the implementation of the party policy. The functionaries must highly display the revolutionary spirit of accepting the party policy unconditionally by regarding it as the most appropriate one and implementing it by devoting all their wisdom and energy.

The void of the spirit of being unconditional and being absolute—bargaining in implementing the party policy and falling back before difficulties—has no business with our functionaries' fighting spirit. The functionaries must raise pressing question over the wrong phenomena of lacking the spirit of being unconditional, bargaining, and dragging feet in implementing the party policy and must actively wage the fundamental struggle to overcome them.

To firmly achieve the monolithic leadership of the party center, it is important to solidly establish the ironclad discipline of centralization under which the entire party acts in unison.

Only when the ironclad discipline of centralization under which all act in unison under the monolithic leadership of the party center is established, can the organizational character of the party and its discipline be strengthened and the leading roles of the party be further enhanced over the revolution and construction.

The functionaries and party members must possess the high organizational character and discipline of acting with the party even in breathing and acting in unison with the party in whatever they do.

The functionaries must establish the strict discipline of concentrating all the important and principled questions of the revolution and construction on the party center and settling them according to a monolithic conclusion.

At the same time, the functionaries and party members must resolutely struggle against all kinds of alien ideas and elements which would destroy or gnaw the unity and cohesion of the party.

The history of our party's unity and cohesion can be regarded as the history of the struggle against all kinds of alien ideas and elements. Through the piercing struggle of principle waged against the alien ideas and elements, our party has achieved the great wholehearted unity as we see today.

The functionaries and party members must completely eradicate parochialism, nepotism, opportunism, flunkeyism, defeatism, and any other ruinous elements by swiftly dealing a serious blow at them and, thus, making them unable to raise its head.

In particular, we must not overlook the appearance of revisionism or flunkeyism, no matter how negligible it may be. We must direct keen attention to opposing it and thoroughly block the penetration of modern revisionism. Only when the appearance and penetration of such reactionary ideas and trends are thoroughly blocked, can the unity and cohesion of the party in ideology and will be purely defended and unceasingly strengthened and the socialist cause be vigorously carried forward according to the party plan and intent under the banner of the revolution.

The functionaries and party members must also firmly arm themselves with the historic experience and lesson of our party gained in the struggle for the unity and cohesion of the party.

Arming oneself with the historic experience and lesson of our party gained in the struggle for the unity and cohesion of the party comes to the fore as a very important issue, because of the currently complicated international situation and the change of the generations in our revolution.

The experience of our party gained through the intransigent struggle against all kinds of ruinous elements, including factionalism, is a limitlessly precious asset to strengthen the unity and cohesion of the party generation after generation. Only by arming oneself with this precious fighting experience, can the functionaries and party members prepare themselves as the indomitable warriors who would take the lead in defending the unity and cohesion of the party and purely defend the purity of the unity and cohesion of the party with a sharp point of view on the party and class.

At the same time, the functionaries must wholeheartedly uphold the party's intent of sacrificial service for the people. They must highly display the spirit of people-mindedness by striking root deep in the people and sharing joy and sorrow with them.

The solidness and powerfulness of our party's unity and cohesion are possible because the party has taken root deep in the people and is united with them as one in body and spirit.

In order that the party takes root in the people and unites with them as one in body and spirit, the cadres must go deep in the people, share joy and sorrow with them, and faithfully serve them. Only then, can the people's trust and faith in the party grow stronger and the blood relations between the party and the people be unceasingly strengthened.

The functionaries must engrave the party's intent deep in their heart and become true servants who would share joy and sorrow with the people and work faithfully for them.

We must take the tradition of the wholehearted unity established in the flames of the anti-Japanese revolution as an example, follow and trust only our party with a single mind, firmly unite around the party center, and loyally uphold the leadership of the party.

Let all party members and working people become a fortress and shield in the struggle to defend the unity and cohesion of the party strengthened through the wise leadership of our party and become the creators of innovation and feats in the rewarding struggle of the 1990's as urged by the party.

Production Upsurge Reported in National Economy

SK0405152191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1506 GMT 4 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 4 (KCNA)—A production upsurge has been reported from various sections of the national economy in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Komdok Mining Complex, a gigantic nonferrous metal ore producing base, is keeping the production of lead and zinc ores on a high level.

The Ore-dressing Plant No. 3, the conveyer line and the April 5 youth electric car pit of the complex have broken the peak record since commissioning, and are maintaining its level.

Twenty-seven production units of the complex have hit the annual or first half year targets.

The Musan Mining Complex produced 50,000 more tons of iron headings above the plan in the first quarter year and fulfilled the April quota at 103 percent.

The Yongsong General Machine Bureau topped the April plan set 10 percent above the March quota by 1.7 percent and continues to make progress.

In April the general bureau produced a high-pressure heat exchanger of the synthesizing tank, a 50,000 cubic metre centrifugal blower, a carbonating tank, a 12,500 cubic metre centrifugal compressor and hundreds of other revolving precision machines and devices of dozens of kinds, greatly contributing to hastening the construction of the Sariwon Potassic Fertilizer Complex and capacity expansion and modernization of the major factories and complexes in Musan, Taehung and Hamhung areas.

Workers of various fields such as the Pyongyang Thermal Power Complex and the Ministry of Forestry overfulfilled the April assignments, maintaining a high production upsurge.

KCNA Review of 9 May Pyongyang Press

SK0905055391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0449 GMT 9 May 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang May 9 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a letter to the great leader President Kim Il-song from the participants in the Portuguese national seminar on the chuche idea and the reunification of Korea.

NODONG SINMUN and MINJU CHOSON inform the readers that foreign news agencies reported the speech of President Kim Il-song at the opening session of the 85th conference of the Interparliamentary Union.

Congratulatory messages or letters came to President Kim Il-song from various countries and celebration meetings were held in different countries on the occasion of his birthday, says the press.

NODONG SINMUN carries news that foreign publications ran articles introducing the revolutionary exploits of President Kim Il-song on the occasion of the 15th of April.

The Nigerian paper SUNDAY CHAMPION carried a gist of the work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il "On Improving and Strengthening Propaganda and Agitation Work in People's Army", says the daily.

NODONG SINMUN and MINJU CHOSON editorially call for pushing ahead with all the work with revolutionary enthusiasm and vigour and for effecting innovations in the production of chemical goods.

Econews of the press include reports that the 10,000-ton press made by our own efforts with our own technique and materials is pressing materials needed for the large machines and equipment and cooperative farms are making full preparations for rice-transplanting.

NODONG SINMUN runs an article entitled "Our State Budget Is People's Budget for Working People".

The paper gives an account of a meeting held to mark the 10th anniversary of the founding of Pyongyang University of Agriculture.

It is reported in the press that the first round of the match for selecting players of the unified Korea team and a meeting of the working committee of the team were held in Seoul and the Olympic Committee of the South side gave a dinner-party for the Soccer team of the North side.

Conspicuous in the press is news about protest in South Korea against brutal murder of student Kang Kyong-tae including reports that 59 universities and colleges vowed to call strike, the head of the social affairs department of the Coalition for National Democratic Movement (Chonminnyon) set himself ablaze and jumped off a building roof; some 1,000 students and citizens in Kwangju vowed to struggle for the ouster of the present "regime" and some 3,000 Christians staged a protest demonstration.

NODONG SINMUN carries an article exposing that "white bone group" [plain-clothes riot police unit]and combat police brutally beat student Kang Kyong-tae to death on the directives of the No Tae-u ruling quarters.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are continuing aerial military exercises against the North, according to the paper.

It reports that Chinese PEOPLE'S DAILY carried an editorial on the official goodwill visit to Korea by Premier Li Peng and senior officials of the State Nationalities Affairs Commission of China elaborated on the problem of Tibet.

Seen in the press are a signed article observing the 46th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the patriotic war, an account of celebrations held in the Soviet Union on this occasion and a report about the Soviet defence minister's visit to China.

NODONG SINMUN says that the home minister of Vietnam stated that Vietnam would strengthen the leadership role of the communist party and the Yugoslav State Presidency held an extraordinary meeting denouncing the attack on the Army.

"The United States must implement its obligation to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty" is the title of a signed article of the paper.

MINJU CHOSON in an article says that the "Team Spirit '91" joint military exercises were a war game which laid a grave obstacle in the cause of peace in Korea and its reunification.

Reportage on Vice President's Visit to India

WA0805152491

For reportage on the visit by Vice President Yi Chong-ok to India, please see the India section of the 8 May Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

South Korea

North's Soccer Team's Spokesman Makes Statement

SK0905034791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0228 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 9 (YONHAP)—North Korea's 70-member soccer delegation said Thursday a tryout the day before had brought together Seoul and Pyongyang and it hoped unification frenzy would spread to the 70 million Koreans living in both sides of the Korean peninsula.

The North Koreans arrived in Seoul Monday to select players for a joint Korean team to vie in June's world youth soccer championship in Portugal.

Northern spokesman Kim Chong-sik said in a departure statement that the players and officials were grateful for the warm welcome they received and described the match as a historic occasion to end 46 years of national division. The North Koreans returned via the truce village of Panmunjom.

He also expressed their regret over the killing of a Seoul college student by the police April 26.

Some North Koreans tried to visit the morgue where the body is kept, but were barred by South Korean security officials. Kim said the team paid tribute in their hotel rooms.

The South was concerned that inter-Korean sports exchanges might be plagued by politics and pleaded with the North to refrain from political remarks.

The trial match was rescheduled at the North's request because of escalating tension following the death of the student, Kang Kyong-tae. It was scheduled for May 1.

A South Korean soccer contingent will go to Pyongyang Friday for a second match Sunday. After the match, eighteen players, nine from each side, will be picked for the second joint Korean team to be fielded in an international competition since Korea was divided 46 years ago.

Officials from the two Koreas Wednesday agreed to train four days each in Pyongyang and Seoul. A single Korean squad will head for Lisbon on May 21.

Daewoo Chairman To Visit Pyongyang With Team

SK0805105491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0735 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 8 (YONHAP)—South Korean tycoon Kim U-chung, chairman of the Daewoo Group, will visit Pyongyang in his capacity as head of the Korea football association on Friday for the second tryout to select players for the joint Korean entry in June's world youth soccer championship.

The game is scheduled for May 12 in Pyongyang.

A Daewoo official confirmed the May 10-13 trip but refused to elaborate.

Kim will be the second tycoon to visit North Korea following Chong Chu-yong, honorary chairman of the Hyundai Group, who was there in January 1989.

He is expected to have in-depth discussions with ranking North Korean officials on economic cooperation, business sources said.

Daewoo has shown interest in building joint-venture textile and electronics factories in North Korea, the sources said.

Kim is also expected to discuss construction of a factory to make consumer goods in North Korea and direct sale of daily necessities to North Korea. He is also likely to discuss direct investment in North Korea's special economic zone near the Tumen River and four-way trade involving China, the Soviet Union and South and North Korea.

Another Daewoo official said Kim's visit was just for sports and not for business. There are rumors that Kim visited Pyongyang twice between last October and February to discuss economic cooperation.

* DPRK's Advanced Weapons Analyzed

912C0149A Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 8 Feb 91 p 8

[Article by Nam Yong-chin]

[Text] It is noteworthy that Iraq's Scud-B ground-to-ground missiles and chemical weapons, which have been generating much fear in the Gulf war, are also being developed in North Korea and are being deployed for real warfare.

According to a government authority who confirmed the status of North Korea's missile deployment and military equipment on 2 February, North Korea has produced about 50 Scud-B missiles per year since 1987 and has set up 12 launch pads within 40-50 kilometers north of the truce line, setting the entire South Korean region within the target range.

In addition, U.S. military analysts say that North Korea has produced chemical weapons in eight areas since early 1980 and has stored more than 250 tons of chemical weapons in the front tunnels.

Let us take a look at North Korea's high-tech missiles, chemical weapons, tanks, and fighters.

Missiles: Like the ones in Iraq, the missiles in North Korea were reportedly imported from the Soviet Union and have been modified. North Korea is known to possess not only the Scud-B missiles, which are ground-to-ground missiles, but also 800 ground-to-air missiles, including the SA-3, SA-5 and SA-7, which have proven powerful in the Gulf war, and 8,000 anti-aircraft guns.

The Scud-B Ground-to-Ground Missile: In 1983, North Korea imported Soviet made Scud missiles from Egypt and began to develop its own model. From 1984 to 1986, North Korea conducted a series of test firings in the Sea of Japan and then developed its own type of Scud-B missile.

Since 1987, North Korea commenced mass production [of the missile] in a plant near Pyongyang, which produces about 50 units per year. This missile is 11.5 meters long and 85 centimeters in diameter. Because its target range is nearly 300 kilometers, the areas north of Kunsan, North Cholla Province and north of Yongdok, North Kyongsang Province fall within its range. It weighs about 900 kilograms and is capable of carrying nuclear and chemical warheads. Its power is similar to the Soviet missiles; but because its launch pad is movable like Iraq's, it is difficult to detect and attack. Also, because its target error is 450-900 meters, it could inflict much damage on civilians when military facilities are targeted in a densely populated area like Seoul.

The Modified Scud Missile: Since 1988, North Korea has been developing a modified version of the Scud missile, which is expected to be manufactured and deployed sometime in 1992.

This new missile is approximately 15.1 meters long and 130 centimeters in diameter, and because its target range is some 600 kilometers, the entire South Korean region falls within its range even if it is launched from north of the truce line.

U.S. intelligence agencies have confirmed loading of missiles at a military testing site north of Pyongyang in May last year, and also confirmed that North Korea was preparing a test firing in a coastal region of North Hamkyong Province.

The SA-5 Ground-to-Air Missile: North Korea has imported 30 some units of this missile from the Soviet Union since 1987. With an ascending altitude of 300 meters to 30 kilometers and a target range of 300 kilometers, this is the newest and post powerful missile for strategic defense, which could pose a serious threat to the activities of our aircraft in the north of the Kunsan-Yongdok line.

The SA-7 Ground-to-Air Missile: Whereas the SA-5 missile requires a launch base, the SA-7 missile is a portable missile and is used to attack low-altitude, low-speed aircraft.

It was first imported in 1974 from the Soviet Union, and since 1979 North Korea has been producing about 100 units per year at an ordnance factory in Chongjin. Its target range is five kilometers and its maximum speed is mach 1.5; but its accuracy is outstanding because it is guided by infrared rays.

Status of Deployment: Government authorities have confirmed that North Korea has actually deployed 12 units of a movable missile-launch pad in areas 40-50 kilometers north of the truce line. According to the "Summary of Strategies in the Asian-Pacific Region for the 21st Century," presented by the U.S. Department of Defense last year, there are nearly 54 units of the ground-to-ground missile launch pad, including both the fixed and movable types.

The U.S. WASHINGTON TIMES, too, confirmed in June last year that North Korea was in the process of building two launch pads in the demilitarized zone for missiles that can be equipped with nuclear warheads.

In addition, there are 50 ground-to-air missile bases, including the SA-5 and SA-7 missiles, spread all over the nation. In the case of the SA-5, North Korea deployed 12 units near Sariwon at the end of 1989, and additional bases are presently under construction in the areas occupied heavily by airports and military facilities, such as Wonsan, Kangwon Province.

North Korea has already completed deployment of the SA-7 missiles at special units and front units. Last year, American newspapers reported that while building two units of the Scud-B missile launch pads in the demilitarized zone, North Korea surrounded the launch pads with the SA-5 launch pads to guard against attacks from outside, and said that surveillance radars were in operation.

Chemical Weapons: North Korea has been producing chemical, biological and radiological weapons since early 1960's, and is ranked the third after the United States and the Soviet Union as a country in possession of chemical weapons.

Type: At present, North Korea has many different kinds of chemical weapons, including chloric hydrocyanic acid (blood-disorder type), phosgene (asphyxiating gas), adamsite (nausea-producing gas), and mustard gas (blister-producing gas), as well as tabun which causes nerve paralysis.

Research and Production: Under Kim Il-song's orders in November 1980, North Korea has reportedly conducted research and development at three research institutions, namely, the Institute of Microbiological Diseases at the Academy of Medical Science, Medical Research Institute at the Academy of National Defense Sciences, and the "No. 25 Factory," and has reportedly completed experiments on "anti-government elements."

North Korea is presently producing about 14 tons of biological and chemical weapons per year in eight areas, including Aochi, Chongjin, Hamhung, and Sinuiju.

Deployment: In order to minimize the time to transport these weapons to the front and combat zones in time of emergency, North Korea has reportedly stored them in six different areas, including Sanumri in South Pyongan Province, Hwangchon in North Hwanghae Province, Sariwon near the truce line, and Wangchaebong near the center of the front line. An American military analyst said in early 1989, "North Korea has deployed 1.8 million tons of chemical weapons in 170 some tunnels in the front."

North Korea has reportedly formed chemical platoons within the regimental level and is reportedly conducting training for chemical and biological weapons attack.

The MiG-29 Fighter: North Korea is reportedly in possession of 1,600 some aircraft, including about 750 fighters, 80 some bombers (IL-28), 300 some transport planes, and 280 some helicopters.

Of these, the Soviet made MiG-29 plane is the newest and most powerful fighter, which the Soviet Union deployed for itself in 1985. North Korea reportedly imported about 25 MiG-29 fighters in early 1988.

Because it is equipped with the newest electronic equipment, such as an infrared detection system and a radar distance determination system, it is superior in night fighting and is somewhat faster than our main fighter F-16.

Ability To Attack: Because North Korea has deployed 40 percent of its fighters at the advance air bases, it is able to launch an immediate offensive over the entire region of South Korea. While the MiG-15, MiG-17 and MiG-19 fighters can attack the national capital region and the northern area, the MiG-21, MiG-23, SU-7, and SU-25 planes can attack the central and southern areas at once.

However, because the MiG-29 fighter can fly up to 1,100 miles, it can attack not only the main land of South Korea but also Cheju Island and Okinawa without refueling after it takes off from the truce line.

The Air Force System and Deployment: Under the Air Force Command in Chunghwa, the North Korean Air Force has three air commands in Kaechon (North Pyongan Province), Toksan (South Hamkyong Province) and Hwangchu (Hwanghae Province) in addition to the 8th Air Division in Orang, North Hamkyong Province.

North Korea has built a total of 70 some air bases, including jet bases, non-jet bases and emergency runways, of which 20 some bases have underground hangars and are presently housing various aircraft.

In particular, North Korea has deployed 40 percent of its jet fighters in the forward position in four areas near the truce line, such as Taenan and Nucholli in Hwanghae Province and Ku-umni and Hyolli in Kangwon Province. Thus, these jet fighters are fully prepared for an immediate take-off toward the entire region of South Korea.

While establishing the three war commands, North Korea relocated aircraft, giving each command an individual strategic power, and established a system of independent strategies based on regimental functions of fighters, bombers, transporters, helicopters, missiles, and detectors.

The T-72 Tank: It is reported that North Korea has recently begun to produce tanks modeled after the Soviet made T-72 tank. The T-72 tank made its entry into the Gulf war as one of Iraq's newest and most powerful weapons, and is challenging the M-1A1 tank of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Capability: Equipped with a 125-millimeter gun and a maximum speed of 80 kilometers per hour, the T-72 tank is superior to the M-1A1 tank which has a 120-millimeter gun and a maximum speed of 72 kilometers per hour. In addition, it is equipped with an infrared vision system, automatic charging system, obstacle removal system, and even a submerging system for river crossing, all of which make it powerful in night fighting. Its only weakness is that it does not stand well against the American TOW missile and the 105-millimeter tank-gun.

Tank and Mechanized Units: North Korea has not yet deployed the T-72 tank for real warfare, and its main force is the T-62 tank. It is estimated that North Korea has about 3,500 tanks, 1,960 armored cars including the M-1983 armored cars designed for combat, 9,000 field-guns, and 7,200 rocket guns.

It is reported that for the last several years North Korea has reorganized its mechanized and tank divisions into 15 mechanized brigades suitable for the Korean topography, and that it has created armored corps, mechanized corps, and self-propelled artillery corps, thereby establishing a command system for modern warfare.

No Tae-u Urges DLP Leaders To Amend Laws

SK0805130591 Seoul YONHAP in English 1233 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 8 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u, who is concurrently head of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), met with four key office-holders of the ruling party over dinner to discuss pressing social and political issues.

The four invited to the meeting were Kim Yun-hwan, DLP's secretary general, Kim Chong-ho, floor leader, Na Ung-pae, chief policy-maker, and Kim Tong-yong, first state minister for political affairs.

It was learned No, after being briefed on the progress of political negotiations over "reforms bill" between ruling and opposition camps, asked them to make every effort to pass the bills through the National Assembly during the on-going extraordinary sitting that ends Saturday.

The rival camps are at odds over the amendments of the National Security Law and laws governing the Agency for National Security Planning and police.

No stressed the need for the political bloc to play a leading role in resolving the current crisis, sources said.

Opposition on Possible Military Intervention

SK0905015591 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 9 May 91 pp 1, 2

[Text] **Opposition leader Kim Tae-chung yesterday warned of military intervention in case of violent anti-No Tae-u campaigns, reaffirming that his party would target only Prime Minister No Chae-pong in protest against the police killing of a student and the administration's "cosmetic" countersteps.** In a press conference at a National Assembly hall, Kim, president of the New Democratic Party [NDP], urged President No to sack the prime minister and all Cabinet members and form a pan-national Cabinet in a bid to restore public order and stability.

He further pressed No to break ties with the government party and give up schemes to amend the Constitution in favor of a parliamentary cabinet system as a way to settle "all the political and social confusion." He argued that the current problems stemmed from the ruling camp's "ambitions" to remain in power for a prolonged period.

Yi Ki-taek, president of the splinter opposition Democratic party, said in a separate press meeting that his party would launch rallies to force No to resign if he refuses to replace Prime Minister No Chae-pong and abolish wild plainclothes riot police.

Kim, when asked why the NDP remains reluctant to join in the hard-line dissidents' moves to drive No to step down, replied, "Despite all the failed politics of the No regime, we believe that it should be replaced through elections. I think an overwhelming majority of people agree with us.

"We cannot rule out the possibility that the military from which the incumbent regime has originated may intervene if the anti-No campaign evolves into a violent one."

Kim said, however, that people have so much matured that they will not allow the nation to fall into the hands of generals again."

He boldly declared that he is convinced of a shift of power in elections next year as "people power" has grown and local autonomy has been introduced.

The NDP president also cited the fear of a military coup as one reason for his objection to the adoption of a cabinet government in place of the present presidential system.

"The people seem not to want a Constitutional amendment. And a parliamentary cabinet system make it hard to put the military under strict control as the authorit6y to command it is to be shared by the president and the prime minister. You can say weak presidential power under the cabinet system abetted the military staging of the May 16 (1961 coup).

"Under a cabinet government, business conglomerates will be better able, to further strengthen collusion with power. My position on the (Constitutional amendment) issue is firm and clear. I will not support the change of government system," he concluded.

He looked concerned about the influence of former prosecutors in charge of national security affairs, now in the Cabinet and Chongwadae who are involved in the government policymaking.

"We have to struggle against this group of national security officials. Our struggle for democratic development demands that we rely on people power without resorting to violence." he said.

He disclosed that strong opposition by prosecutors has prevented the administration from withdrawing an indictment against him on charges of failing to report to the law enforcement authorities a party lawmaker's plan to make an unauthorized visit to North Korea two years ago.

"I have been informed through an informal channel that the decision to drop the charge was approved by the President a few months ago but the administration is delaying it in the face of strong repercussions from prosecutors. This invisible black hand is suffocating political quarters," he maintained.

No Chae-pong Rejects Cabinet Resignation Calls

SK0905055691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0428 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 9 (OANA-YONHAP)—Prime Minister No Chae-pong, rejecting repeated calls for resignation of his cabinet Thursday, said his government would deal resolutely with social disturbances and activities disrupting law and order.

"Certain political and social sectors are talking about the cabinet's resignation, including the prime minister. All the ministers, including myself, stand by the principle that we acknowledge our mistakes when we make mistakes without clinging to our posts," No told the cabinet in a morning meeting.

"But we must remember that we are public officials, appointed by the head of state. We must stand stronger and work harder at times of instability such as now," No said.

The cabinet meeting was pushed up from the scheduled 3 P.M. to address the national unrest stemming from the beating death of a college student two weeks ago and the ensuing demonstrations and protest suicides.

Opposition parties are insisting cabinet resignation is the only solution to the crisis and warn of a mass struggle outside the political forum unless the leadership steps down.

The prime minister, unheeding the calls, told the cabinet: "Our choice is no other than the new democratic order. We cannot but stand firmly against all illegal, violent protests and actions on the grounds that we must protect the people.

"We must not neglect the government's primary duty of protecting law and order.

"We will not accept exploitation of the student deaths for unconstitutional, undemocratic, disorderly conduct such as demands for our resignation," No told the ministers.

The National Assembly should try to revise the public assembly law, he said, ordering efforts by the cabinet to ensure legal, peaceful protests.

Ministers, Professors on Student Demonstrations

SK0805131891 Seoul YONHAP in English 1202 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 8 (YONHAP)—The home affairs, justice and education ministers and the presidents of 33 universities met Wednesday in a closed-door session to discuss anti-government protests touched off by the police killing of a student demonstrator.

Home Minister Yi Sang-yon, Justice Minister Yi Chong-nam and Education Minister Yun Hyong-sop were known to have exchanged opinions with the university presidents on the current political situation and work out ways to restore calm.

In attendance were Cho Wan-kyu, president of Seoul National University, Pak Yong-sik of Yonsei University, Kim Hui-chip of Korea University, Yun Hu-chung of Ehwa Womans University, and Pak Hong of Sogang University.

It is unusual for the ministers to meet with so many university presidents at once. About 2,600 professors of 60 universities have issued statements against the government since the beating death April 26.

Police Allow Students To View North's Movie

SK0905013091 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 9 May 91 p 3

[Text] In an apparent turnabout, police allowed a North Korean movie to be run on campuses across the nation, mirroring the government stance of shunning clashes with students.

The movie titled "Mother, I Am Your Son" has so far been prohibited from screening because it allegedly encourages self-immolation and instigates antigovernment sentiments.

But with little blocking by police, the movie was screened simultaneously for 80 minutes yesterday in six universities nationwide including Sunnggyungwan, Kongkuk, Sungsil and Sejong University.

A senior police officer said police decided to just stand guard outside campuses, considering the tense atmosphere of universities in the wake of the beating to death of a college student by police.

Assembly Adopts Resolution Opposing Rice Import

SK0805020691 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 8 May 91 p 2

[Text] The National Assembly yesterday adopted a resolution opposing the import of rice.

The resolution states that the domestic rice market cannot be open to foreign supplies under any circumstances.

It also calls on the government to exert a great deal of diplomatic effort to exclude rice from the import items list.

At the same time, the resolution urges the government to take measures to sharpen the international competitiveness of Korea's agricultural products and to restructure farming industries.

Rep. Kim Yong-chin, one of the promoters of the resolution, urged the government to reaffirm its promise to ban rice imports.

The opposition lawmaker said rice, the nation's main staple, accounts for 31 percent of the farming household income. The number of farmers stood at some 8 million, he said.

Pak Su-kil, ambassador to Geneva, created controversy recently when he said it may be "inevitable" for South Korea to open its rice market to foreign supplies soon.

Some angry lawmakers have demanded that Pak be summoned, and Prime Minister No Chae-pong expressed regret about the comments by Pak who is concurrently chief Korean negotiator in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks.

Daewoo Firm Calls in Police To Clear Factory

SK0905060391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0532 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Inchon, May 9 (YONHAP)—Daewoo Motor Co. called in the police Wednesday to clear its factory of workers and subdue protests over the arrest of union officials.

There has been lingering tension at Daewoo's automobile plant in Inchon, a port west of Seoul, since it resumed operations 11 days ago after being shut down for 13 days.

The union is accusing management of not cooperating for the release of the union officials.

The trouble started when four union officials wanted by the police snuck into the factory at 3 P.M. some 500 workers in the car body division downed tools at 4 P.M. and the protest spread, resulting in 700 workers demonstrating outside the two company gates.

On hearing the news, 600 marketing personnel left an anti-government rally at Yonsei University, western Seoul, and clashed with the police, throwing chunks of paving stones in a bid to join their colleagues inside the factory.

At the university, the workers joined dissidents and students in a protest over the "brutal killing" of a Seoul student by the police late last month. In their struggle against the government, workers and students are on friendlier terms than ever.

As the protest outside the factory continued into the night, the company asked the police to disperse the workers and some 800 riot policemen charged into the factory twice at around midnight. In the process, 371 workers were taken away for questioning.

The company decided to make Thursday a day off and is laboring to find solutions to the walkout, but it is unlikely that peace will return soon as workers are to mount further protests.

The Daewoo group affiliate was hit by violent demonstrations as workers downed tools to protest the arrest of six union officials April 8. The company responded with a lockout April 17 and pressed ahead with the resumption of operations on April 29.

Labor Unions To End Work Early To Demonstrate

SK0905023991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0159 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 9 (YONHAP)—Massive civil unrest is expected in major cities Thursday afternoon when tens of thousands of radical students, labor activists and dissidents try to march in the streets to demand dissolution of the ruling party and an end to "security-oriented rule."

As in previous occasions, police say ralliers' taking to the streets will be blocked. A heavy-handed police response was threatened Wednesday by the national police director, raising fears that the evening will bear witness to the biggest violent clashes since Kang Kyong-tae, a 20-year-old Seoul freshman, was beaten to death by the police April 26.

Sparked by shock and fury at Kang's death, violent protests have rocked the nation and anti-government sentiment has escalated, further heated by the ritual protest self-immolations of three students and a dissident leader and by the controversial suicide of a union leader.

In a news conference Wednesday, the joint emergency committee, a loose-knit grouping of 53 dissident organizations, predicted 1 million people would march peacefully through the streets of Seoul and 50 other cities at 6 P.M. Thursday.

It is highly uncertain if the policy of non-violence will be honored as there are growing complaints among various hardline groups that firebombs and stones are necessary to fight riot police armed with tear gas.

Dissident labor organizations, including Korea's biggest coalition, Chonnohyop, said some 210,000 unionized workers at 450 work sites would down tools at 3:30 P.M. to join the street protests.

The largest student organization, Chondaehyop, said 27,000 students from 59 universities and colleges under its umbrella would boycott classes Thursday and Friday and that in Seoul alone 15,000 students from 35 universities would hold separate campus rallies before joining the marches.

In order to prevent the marches forming, 45,000 policemen will be mobilized, including 15,000 in the capital, and will detain violent demonstrators.

Of 50 planned rallies, permits have been requested for 24 and 18 will be approved. Six in downtown areas will not be permitted, the police said Thursday morning.

In Seoul, protestors will gather together in seven downtown locations at around 4 P.M. and march toward City Hall.

Cambodia

Tie Banh: Cease-Fire Holds Despite Accusations

BK0905150091 Hong Kong AFP in English 1450 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 9 (AFP)—Cambodia's warring factions are generally respecting their cease-fire despite mutual accusations of violations since it came into effect at the start of the month, Defence Minister Tie Banh said here Thursday.

"I notice the situation is getting much better after we declared a cease-fire, the fighting has decreased," General Tie Banh told journalists.

But he said, "Cambodia warmly welcomes the U.N. military mission" due here Tuesday to monitor the truce.

"It's very difficult to observe a cease-fire without a third person because both sides keep charging the other of violation—who should know?"

The rivals have traded charges of violations of the call since day one, prompting the United Nations to send a monitoring team led by a Ghanaian general and including French and Indonesian military men.

The team's agenda is yet to be fixed but the general said, "I think that wherever they request to go, they will be able to go."

The international sponsors of the cease-fire hope it will last at least until the four warring sides meet in early June in Jakarta to try and make a breakthrough in peace negotiations.

The general noted that dry-season fighting between Phnom Penh forces and the three China-backed resistance factions from October to date had been heavy.

But he said it only "represents 10 per cent" of the campaigns last year and in 1989, just after Vietnam troops withdrew from this country.

He said a new phenomenon was the resistance's use of long- distance artillery offensives and tanks on government positions, even though it rarely combined them with infantry assaults.

Gen. Tie Banh said the Air Force had been used in the dry-season fighting against Khmer Rouge positions in the western gem-mining town of Pailin.

"But at a very minimum level because we consider aircraft fighting is not a decisive factor. The decisive factor is infantry," he added, while firmly denying that MiG-21 fighter jets were used saying that "the main task of the Cambodian Air Force is transportation."

The general also denied resistance, Chinese and U.S. charges that Vietnamese troops remained in Cambodia 12 years after ousting the Marxist Khmer Rouge and installing the Phnom Penh Government and he reiterated an offer for doubters to send fact-finding missions to verify this.

He said Phnom Penh was no longer receiving large supplies of weapons from its other main ally, Moscow, adding that reports of shipments of 15,000 tonnes to 20,000 tonnes of Soviet equipment in January, February and April were "a calumny."

Phnom Penh had instead relied on capturing stockpiles of resistance military equipment during the dry season.

He said the enemy in northwest and west Cambodia brought heavy weapons and ammunition close to government forces which counter- attacked, driving off the guerrillas and capturing their weapons.

Government policy was to let the enemy engage first, drive them away and clean up their military gear which could be "kept for long term fighting."

But he added that the resistance generally "try to avoid (infantry) fighting," relying more on shelling.

VONADK Reports 1 May Cease-Fire Violations

BK0905013291 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 8 May 91

[Excerpt] On 1 May, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and race exterminators and puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim, traitors to the nation and Vietnam's lackeys, in the 2d Military Region assembled Vietnamese aggressor troops and puppets and traitors of the nation forces to launch attacks against our Cambodian national resistance forces in (Khla Paon), Santuk, and Khtuoy Villages in Stoeng Trang District, and in Trapeang Sangke Village in Chamka Leu District, Kompong Cham Province. They also recruited soldiers and plundered our people's property in these areas.

This is a deliberate and flagrant violation of the cease-fire call of the cochairmen of the Paris conference and the UN Secretary General by the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and race exterminators and puppets and traitors to the nation Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim, Vietnam's lackeys.

The main goals of the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim, traitors to the nation and Vietnam's lackeys in violating this cease-fire are:

1. To destroy the meeting of the cochairmen of the Paris - conference and the four Cambodian parties to be held in Jakarta to solve Vietnam' war of aggression in Cambodia politically and comprehensively; and

2. To destroy the five documents of the United Nations, particularly the 28 August 1990 framework document,

aggression in Cambodia as soon as possible. This is to enable Vietnam to restore its economy and to improve the living conditions of its people.

PRACHEACHON Hails Chea Sim's Laos Visit

BK0705142391 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 4 May 91

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "Warmly Welcome the Success of the Visit by the High-Level State of Cambodia National Assembly and Front National Council Delegation to the Lao People's Democratic Republic"; date not given]

[Text] The official friendly visit of the high-level State of Cambodia National Assembly and Front National Council delegation headed by Comrade Chea Sim, Political Bureau member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the National Assembly and of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense National Council, to the Lao People's Democratic Republic from 29 April to 2 May concluded with an excellent outcome. Together with the recent visit of the high- level State of Cambodia party and government delegation headed by Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin to attend the fifth congress of the fraternal Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP], this visit constitutes another step in the strengthening of the time- honored traditional bonds of friendship, solidarity, and cooperation between the parties, governments, and peoples of the two countries in the cause of the common struggle and in the interests of the people of each country.

In an atmosphere of fraternal solidarity and mutual understanding, the Lao and Cambodian top leaders hailed and highly appreciated all the new great achievements by the peoples of the two countries in national construction and defense, and regarded them as each country's own successes. They agreed with each other to further intensify cooperation and exchange experiences between the legislative institutions of the two countries—Cambodia and Laos—on the basis of the prevailing requirements and conditions in each respective country.

The most heart-warming part was the Lao side's reassurances of its firm and unreserved support for the flexible constructive and good-will stance of the State of Cambodia in the search for a political solution that must be specific, correct, fair, and genuine and based on the respect for Cambodia's independence and national sovereignty and the Cambodian people's right to self-determination as well as the absolute prevention of the genocidal regime's return.

The Lao side also expressed unswerving support for the State of Cambodia's latest five-point proposal, and appealed to the international community to support the five-point position on the convening of the Supreme National Council meeting, the voluntary cease-fire, the cessation of all foreign military aid and their transit through neighboring countries, and the sending of a UN fact-finding mission to refugee camps and regions controlled by the Cambodian opposition side to use these facts as a basis for finding an early comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem.

The Lao and Cambodian sides expressed full support for the 22 April 1991 appeal by the UN secretary general and the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia for a voluntary cease-fire to be observed by all Cambodian factions as of 1 May, and regarded this appeal as a peace initiative for the Cambodian people.

At the same time, the Lao and Cambodian sides once again agreed on the objective requirement for the strengthening of the bonds of solidarity, special friendship, and all-round cooperation among Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam at this new juncture for the sake of stability, development, and interests of the three Indochinese countries in general and of each concerned country in particular, thus making an important contribution to the maintenance of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation in the region and the world.

We enthusiastically rejoice at the success of the visit to Laos by the high-level National Assembly and Front National Council delegation headed by Chairman Chea Sim, and consider it a new encouragement for our people's just struggle.

At a time when the political solution to the Cambodian problem is entering its final stage, our entire party, army, and people pledge to hold even higher the banner of firm solidarity and unity and to further raise the sense of self-reliance, revolutionary vigilance, and mastery of the tasks to advance toward reaching at all costs our party and state's ultimate goal of ensuring a lasting peace without the threat of the genocidal regime's recurrence.

We express profound gratitude to the fraternal Lao party, government, and people who have always unreservedly supported our correct struggle. We wish the fraternal Lao people more and greater success in the line worked out by the Fifth LPRP Congress.

Hor Namhong Returns From Poland, USSR Visits

BK0705041891 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] The Foreign Ministry delegation of the State of Cambodia led by Foreign Minister Comrade Hor Namhong returned home safely at 1030 on 6 May after a three-week visit to the Republic of Poland and the USSR.

Welcoming the delegation at Pochentong Airport were Comrades Sok An, Long Visalo, Phi Thach, and Sek Setha, deputy foreign ministers; and many cadres from the Foreign Ministry.

Also on hand at the airport to welcome the delegation were Comrade Yuriy Myakhotnykh and Mr. Jozef

Koblialka, respectively Soviet and Polish ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the State of Cambodia.

Hor Namhong Greets Polish Foreign Minister

BK0605071791 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 4 May 91

[Text] Comrade Hor Namhong, the State of Cambodia's foreign minister, recently sent a congratulatory message to His Excellency Krysztof Skubiszewski, foreign minister of the Republic of Poland.

On the National Day of the Republic of Poland, I would like to express to you most cordial congratulations. I firmly believe that the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two states, particularly our two Foreign Ministries, will develop and deepen for the benefit of our two people.

I wish you good health and great success in carrying out your lofty mission for the happiness and glory of the Polish people.

Leaders Send Greetings to Polish Counterparts

BK0505074691 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0400 GMT 5 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 5 May (SPK)—Heng Samrin, chairman of the State of Cambodia's State Council, recently conveyed a message of warm greetings to his Polish counterpart, Lech Walesa, on the national day of the Republic of Poland.

The message read: "I am firmly confident that the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries will further develop and expand for the sake of our two peoples' well-being and in the interests of peace and social progress."

In the meantime, Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Hor Namhong, foreign minister of the State of Cambodia, also sent messages of warm greetings to their Polish counterparts, Jan Krzysztof Bielecki and Krzysztof Skubiszewski, respectively.

Tie Banh Greets USSR Counterpart on 1 May

BK0705044491 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] On the 105th anniversary of international labor day, Comrade General Tie Banh, defense minister of the State of Cambodia, sent a greetings message to Comrade Marshal of the Soviet Union Yazov, defense minister of the USSR. The message noted:

On behalf of the leaders of the Defense Ministry and cadres and combatants of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces and in my own name, we would like to extend warmest greetings and best wishes to leaders of the Defense Ministry and cadres and combatants of the Soviet Armed Forces. May you enjoy good health, strength, and greater victories in fulfilling your noble tasks assigned by the party and people.

Heng Samrin Greets CSFR Leader on National Day

BK0905075591 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] On the 46th anniversary of the National Day of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of State, sent a congratulatory message to Vaclav Havel, president of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic. The message says in essence:

On behalf of the entire Cambodian people and in my own name, I would like to express warmest congratulations. I firmly believe that the relations of friendship and fruitful cooperation between our two countries will continue to develop to respond to the interests of our two people. I wish you good health and new successes in carrying out your noble task, and through you, glory and well-being to the Czech and Slovak people.

Deputy Minister Receives Hungarian Team

BK0605072591 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 3 May 91

[Text] On 27 April at the office of the State of Cambodia's Foreign Ministry, Comrade Long Visalo, deputy foreign minister, received a delegation from the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Hungary led by (Subi Zetan), chief of the Asian Affairs Department of the Hungarian Foreign Ministry.

During the meeting, Comrade Long Visalo briefed the guests on the economic and social development of the State of Cambodia. Concerning the political situation, Comrade Long Visalo specified the State of Cambodia's realistic stance in the search for a solution to the conflict based on the principle of respect for Cambodia's sovereignty and the Cambodian people's right to self- determination and absolute guarantee that the genocidal Pol Pot regime does not return to Cambodia for the second time.

On Cambodian-Hungarian relations, Comrade Long Visalo affirmed that the State of Cambodia will continue to strengthen and expand the existing tradition of friendship and solidarity with the Republic of Hungary for the benefit of the two countries' people.

Replying, (Subi Zetan) expressed satisfaction at the relations of friendship and cooperation betwen Hungary and the State of Cambodia. He stressed that despite some changes in Hungary, the Hungarian Government wishes to continue all-round relations with Cambodia. He pledged to do whatever he can in his capacity to contribute to expanding the relations with the State of Cambodia.

Sources: Cargo Boat To Link Phnom Penh, Bangkok

BK0705132491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1326 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 7 (AFP)—The Cambodian capital and Bangkok are set to be linked by a monthly cargo vessel run arriving here Wednesday, informed sources said here Tuesday.

The Orient Express is scheduled to reach Phnom Penh by the Mekong River after stopping at southern Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City, the sources said.

The boat will be carrying cargo for some non-governmental organisations while the prospects of bringing in Japanese humanitarian aid was being investigated.

Thailand does not recognise the government here but despite providing sanctuary for the three resistance parties has long broadcast its hope of turning Indochina into a giant marketplace for Thai goods.

The two capitals are already directly linked five times a week by the independent Bangkok Airways, which also hopes to open up services to the ancient Angkor Temple complexes in northwest Cambodia.

The sea and river link between Phnom Penh and Bangkok was cut during the civil war that ended in April 1975 when the Marxist Khmer Rouge overthrew the U.S.-backed Lon Nol regime.

But there have long been direct sea and trade links between the southwest port of Koh Kong and southeast Thailand's Trat Province.

The Khmer Rouge were themselves kicked out of power by the Vietnamese in January 1979 and now head the resistance struggle against the Phnom Penh Government that replaced it.

Official Reports Local, Foreign Investment

BK0605124791 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 6 May 91

[Summary] Over the past few years, many local and foreign businessmen have brought to Cambodia various forms of investments. According to a cadre at the investment department of the office of the Phnom Penh City people's committee, there are nearly 70 local and foreign companies which plan to invest in the country.

"Foreign companies that have contacted Phnom Penh City includes those from countries such as Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, the United States, France, Australia, Singapore, and Hong Kong. There are also number of local companies from Phnom Penh, Kompong Som, and Koh Kong. However, only four of all the local and foreign companies have signed contracts and are genuinely functioning well."

CARE Opens Office in Phnom Penh

BK0505074291 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1148 GMT 4 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 4 May (SPK)—By virtue of a recent accord, the State of Cambodia has allowed for the opening of an office of the humanitarian organization CARE in Phnom Penh.

Before signing the agreement, Long Visalo, Cambodian deputy foreign minister, received John Malcohn, CARE chairman, and Yan Harris, Australia-based CARE president.

Plan To Grow Monsoon Rice Reported

BK0605075391 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0443 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 6—This monsoon season, Cambodia expects to expand rice cultivation to a total of 1,940,000 hectares for an output of 2,475,000 tons of paddy according to the Ministry of Agriculture.

As rains have begun in some parts of the country, particularly in the provinces of Takeo, Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, and Pursat, the agricultural mechanization department under the Ministry of Agriculture and the provincial agricultural services have accelerated mechanical ploughing for peasants to grow floating rice. So far, tractors of the department and services as well as those owned by peasants have prepared 41,000 hectares of land for rice cropping.

The tilled area marked 16 percent of the acreage zoned for mechanical ploughing this rainy season, or an increase of 28,000 hectares as compared with the same period last year.

The Ministry of Agriculture said it planned to import 34,000 tons of chemical fertilizer for sale to peasants in this monsoon season. However, it warned against a possible shortage of fertilizer and pesticide and urged the peasants to make organic fertilizer for better results.

The ministry has prepared a number of small and big-size pumping machines to help the peasants irrigate the rice fields while the water conservancy department has closely cooperated with the peasants in upgrading irrigation projects.

However, the projects could supply enough water for only 20 percent of the cultivated land, and the rest entirely depends on rainfall.

Rice Shortage Predicted in Kompong Speu Province

BK0905052691 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0422 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 9—This year, Kandal Stoeng District, Kandal Province, would face a shortage of 500 tons of paddy as the last monsoon harvest of monsoon rice was poor.

Pan Sokhon, deputy head of the district agricultural service, said in the previous monsoon season, the district had managed to cultivate 10,145 ha of rice or 70 per cent of the earmarked area. However, some 2,700 ha of rice were destroyed by drought and only 7,500 ha were harvestable with an average per hectare yield of 1.7 tons.

Even with this dry-season rice output of more than 1,000 tons, the yearly per-capita food supply to the district's population of 11,890 families could reach only 200 kgs as against the need of 350 kgs per head for the whole year.

Indonesia

Agreement Signed With PRC on Ash Soda Plant

BK0805120391 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1039 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Jakarta, May 8 (OANA-ANTARA)—The first Indonesia-PRC turnkey project cooperation on the construction of an ash soda plant with a production capacity of 300,000 tons per year was signed here Wednesday.

The ash soda plant which is located in the industrial area of PT Pupuk Kaltim [a fertilizer company] in Bontang, East Kalimantan, will also produce ammonium chloride as raw material for fertilizer up to the amount of 300,000 tons per year.

Director General of Basic Chemical Industries Wardiyasa, when witnessing the signing of the cooperation agreement, said the plant would enable Indonesia to stop importing ash soda which was very important for glass manufacturing industries and paper plants.

He said, so far the need for ash soda had always been one hundred percent fulfilled through imports.

Another benefit is that Indonesia, through the turnkey project, will be able to enjoy a transfer of technology in the field of basic chemical industries from the PRC.

Meanwhile, Sukamdani S. Gitosarjono of the Indonesian company in charge of the project said that the realization of the project took quite a long time because it must go through several negotiation process with the PRC, which were followed by visits to several ash soda factories in the country.

He said the total investment for the construction of the plant totalled 75 million U.S. dollars.

The plant occupied a ten hectare plot at the PT Pupuk Kaltim complex.

France To Help Build Electricity Plants

BK0805123391 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] French Industry Minister Roger Faroux says his country will assist Indonesia in building electricity generating plants because France is experienced in this field and annually earns $1 billion in foreign exchange from electricity exports to neighboring countries. The French industry minister made the remarks during a press conference in Jakarta this afternoon.

Answering questions on nuclear-powered electricity plants, Minister Roger Faroux said that he did not rule out possible discussions on this matter with the Indonesian Government. He also said that a French trade mission would visit Indonesia in January 1992 to enhance trade cooperation between the two countries.

The French industry minister today concluded his five-day visit to Indonesia.

Alatas, Tanzanian Minister Discuss Ties

BK0905011291 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0000 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Following a meeting between members of the Tanzanian delegation and their Indonesian counterparts in Jakarta yesterday, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and Tanzanian Foreign Affairs Minister Ahmad Hasan Diria held separate meetings with newsmen. They expressed the hope that the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] will actively contribute its ideas and concept towards creating a new world order.

Both Indonesia and the United Republic of Tanzania are of the opinion that NAM is still relevant to the current world situation.

Meanwhile, in an effort to promote bilateral cooperation, Tanzania has also expressed its wish to learn about Indonesia's oil exploration techniques because oil resources have been discovered in that country not long ago. Tanzania also wants to cooperate with Indonesia to concretely strengthen South-South Cooperation.

Press Urged to Report Government, House Views

BK0805111591 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 1 May 91 p 1

[Excerpt] Jakarta (JP)—Cabinet ministers called on the press yesterday to focus not only on views of the executive branch of government but also on those of the legislature in order to promote democracy in Indonesia.

Home Affairs Minister Rudini and Coordinating Minister for Political Affairs and Security Adm. (ret) [Retired] Sudomo stressed the importance of reporting the government's views as well as tense debates initiated by members of the House of Representatives (DPR).

Information Minister Harmoko, meanwhile, assured the press it would not be punished for publishing criticisms so long as they were presented according to the rules of the game.

Rudini said "the performance of the press in conveying views of the DPR has to improve.

He strongly rejected the assumption that members of DPR had all along been "yes men," because "it has never been easy" to have a bill passed by the DPR.

Rudini said he was of the same view of Maj. Gen. Saiful Sulun, a deputy speaker of the House who complained in a TVRI [Indonesian Television] interview on Sunday that the press had always focused on ministers at DPR hearings and ignored the tense moments during which DPR members raised strong views on various issues.

"Once there was a tense debate between the government and the DPR regarding a bill, and journalists were present. The next day what was considered newsworthay, ironically, was not the debate preceeding the passage of the bill but the mere fact that the bill was passed. This kind of news reporting gives the impression that the DPR's job is merely to swallow government proposals," Rudini said.

He called on the press to cover both sides in order to encourage formation on a stronger DPR.

In a related development yesterday, Information Minister Harmoko called on the national press not to be afraid of publishing criticism as long as it was done according to the Indonesian press ethics.

"The government does not have any intention to silence criticism, or to frighten the press..." Harmoko said. But he added criticism should be represented according to the Indonesian press ethics and should be "constructive" in nature.

On Monday, Armed Forces Commander Gen Try Sutrisno said criticism should not be presented frontally but should be delivered in an informative way, so the people targeted would not be offended.

Harmoko said that the press was playing an increasingly bigger role and that the quality of press criticism was also improving.

Meanwhile, Coordinating Minister for Political Affairs and Security Adm. (ret) Sudomo said, yesterday the Indonesian press had in fact been criticizing the government all along. In a humorous manner, Sudomo said his hair turned grey sooner than he expected "because of dealing with press criticisms."

Turning to the DPR, Sudomo said the legislative body should ideally consist of experts from various fields who could provide alternatives to the government's ideas whenever needed.

Until that situation occured, the public would tend to assume that DPR was a sleeping organization for its members would mostly swallow anything the government said, Sudomo said. [passage omitted]

Minister on Aceh Returnees, East Timor Rebels

BK0805110591 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 30 Apr 91 p 3

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—The government confirmed yesterday that none of the Acehnese who had crossed to Malaysia's states of Penang and Kedah on March 15 and April 3 were detained.

"It was a common problem of illegal entry as declared by the Malaysian government," Coordinating Minister for Political Affairs and Security Sudomo said at a special gathering here yesterday morning.

The minister admitted, however, there were efforts by the Acehnese to have Malaysia accept them as political refugees.

The first group of 51 Acehnese arrived in Malaysia on March 15 after crossing the Malacca Strait. The second group of 32 came on April 3. Both groups included women and children.

Earlier last week Minister Sudomo said all had returned to Aceh and that none of them would be detained or prosecuted. He declined, however, to say why the Acehnese had gone to Malaysia, saying they were probably influenced by "misleading information." He did not say what kind of information would have influenced the people to cross to Malaysia.

The former naval chief stressed yesterday that the separatist rebellion in Aceh had been put down and that the incidents reported there were pure crimes.

Sudomo was responding to questions about reports on the murder of civilians in Aceh by government security people and about attacks on security people by the Acehnese.

He said the separatist leaders had all been shot and that those who remained only had about 20 firearms which they snatched from the security people.

Sudomo said there remained only 200 rebels in East Timor and they were scattered in the mountains.

"But militarily speaking, they pose no threat and as they do not cause disturbances the government has decided to leave them alone," he said, adding that in the past they were a problem because they had hostage with them.

He said the government decided not to crush them once and for all because to do so would require a lot of money.

"So we let them be because they no longer create problem," he said.

Sudomo denied that the government did not crush the rebellion once and for all because it was using East Timor as a training ground for the armed forces.

"It's simply because we don't have the money to do it," he said.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting yesterday, Sudomo said the call for a fair and just election was probably due to the fact that Golkar [functional group] had continued to win major shares of the votes.

"Those who ask for a just and fair election should have asked why the people keep voting for Golkar," he said.

He stressed Golkar never put pressure on people to vote for it and it won because people trusted it. He also said there was no obligation for government employees to vote for Golkar and that they were free to join any political parties.

"The government has never applied sanctions against its employees who become members of other political parties," said Sudomo.

'Petisi 50': Travel Allowed for 'Special Reasons'

BK0805130891 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1030 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Jakarta, May 8 (OANA-ANTARA)—Members of the so-called Petisi 50 [a dissident group critical of the Suharto government] are allowed to go on hajj pilgrimage although they are included in the Immigration Office's list of Indonesians banned from traveling abroad, Immigration Director General Roni Sikap Sinuraya said here Wednesday.

In principle everybody belonging to the list can go overseas for special reasons like hajj pilgrimage and medical treatment, he told the press after a meeting with several members of the Petisi 50.

Petisi 50 is a group of senior government officials and retired armed forces officers who often aired strong criticisms against the government.

Among the group members who Wednesday met with Director General Sinuraya were former commander of the Indonesian Police Retired Police Gen. Hugeng Imam Santoso, former Jakarta governor Retired Marine Lt. Gen. Ali Sadikin, Retired Maj. Gen. Dr. Aziz Saleh, Retired Vice Marshal Suyitno Sukarno, Dr. Anwar Haryono, Ir. [academic title] Slamet Bratanata, and Chris Siner Key Timu.

Covering the meeting were around [figures indistinct] foreign and domestic newsmen who were not allowed to enter the room where it took place.

[A] spokesman of the Directorate General of Immigration said the room was too small to accomodate all the newsmen.

According to Sinuraya, he met Sadikin and friends not in their capacity as members of the Petisi 50 but as Indonesian citizens asking reasons behind the regulation banning them from traveling abroad.

He told Sadikin and friends that except for Mrs. Aziz Saleh, until a week ago they were still included in the Immigration Office's black list for certain reasons.

Elaborating on the term certain reasons, Sinuraya said they included preventive measures so that they (Petisi 50 members) would not make statements in foreign countries which in their turn might influence the flow of foreign loans to Indonesia.

So far the Indonesian Government has always considered foreign loans only [as a] supplement to Indonesia's development funds, but if people like Petisi 50 members talk at their own will abroad, some countries might lose their confidence in Indonesia, he said.

Moreover, according to the available records, the group members also wrote articles and letters questioning some government policies, accusations as well as efforts to mobilize forces which might ruin the Indonesian people and foreign countries' confidence in the government, Sinuraya said.

However, Sinuraya said that for certain reasons and humanity considerations, some group members were still allowed to leave Indonesia.

The government, he gave an example, allowed Sadikin to go to Holland when he wanted to accompany his wife for medical treatment.

Therefore, the government would also consider the possibility of allowing some members to go on hajj pilgrimage.

Asked what if they abuse the permit to go on hajj pilgrimage by talking about bad things in Indonesia, he said: I belive they will not do that. But if in Mecca they do make bad statements about our country, that would be a different matter.

On whether one day they would be excluded from the list, he said there is a strong possibility because we do carry [out] evaluation periodically.

On those involved in the activities affecting the country's political and security life, the evaluation is conducted once a year and for those found to have been involved in criminal or civil cases once every six months.

For drugs or narcotics cases, the list will be valid for good, Sinuraya said.

He said Petisi 50 members will be excluded from the list when they stop writing articles and letters questioning government policies which might result in decreasing confidence in the Indonesian Government.

So far there are 17,000 people included in the Immigration Office's list of people prevented from going abroad, he said adding that aside from that, there are also some people who are prevented from entering Indonesia as their presence here was not desired.

Laos

Views Exchanged on MIA Search, U.S. Aid

BK0905031091 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] On 4 May, delegations from the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and the United States met in Vientiane to exchange views on the humanitarian issue. The meeting was held to further the exchanges of views held on 17 April between high-level delegations of the two countries headed by Laos Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Souban Salitthilat and U.S. Under Secretary of State Carl Ford.

In this meeting, the Lao delegation was led by Ms. Kannika Phommachan, head of the second department of the Foreign Affairs Ministry. The delegation also comprised representatives from the National Defense Ministry. The U.S. delegation was led by Charles Salmon, U.S. charge d'affaires ad interim to Laos. A representative of the Prisoner-of-War and MIA Affairs Office of the U.S. Defense Department, together with prisoner-of-war and MIA experts from the U.S. Joint Casualties Resolution Center and the Central Identification Laboratory of Hawaii, also attended the meeting as members of the U.S. delegation.

The two sides praised and hailed the improvement in bilateral relations in the previous years. They hoped the good relations will be further promoted and expanded.

In the exchange of views on the U.S. prisoner-of-war and MIA issue, the Lao side has agreed to the proposal to seek information on unclear burial grounds and for further searches for remains in general places. The U.S. side deeply thanked the Lao side for their humanitarian cooperation and hoped that the search for prisoners of war and MIAs will be successfully carried out. The Lao side thanked the U.S. side for the 1991 humanitarian aid plan for Laos as well as the plan to build schools with U.S. funds, for the supply of medicine and medical equipment, and for the plan to provide medical checkups and treatment for Laos. The U.S. side has reiterated its pledge to provide humanitarian aid to Laos.

The meeting proceeded in a cordial atmosphere in the spirit of mutual understanding on bilateral relations. Earlier, on 3 May, the U.S. delegation also paid a courtesy call on Souban Salitthilat, the LPDR deputy minister of foreign affairs.

Government, Thai Delegation Hold Meetings

Asa Sarasin, Phoun Sipaseut Meet

BK0805133391 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] In response to an invitation of Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], a government delegation of the Kingdom of Thailand led by Asa Sarasin, minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Vientiane this morning for a two-day official visit to the LPDR. Upon their arrival in Vientiane, Asa Sarasin and the delegation were warmly welcomed by Phoun Sipaseut. Later, the Lao and Thai Government delegations respectively headed by Phoun Sipaseut and Asa Sarasin held official talks at the Government Guest House No. 2 in Vientiane capital. The talks lasted more than an hour.

After the talks, Phoun Sipaseut gave a press statement highly assessing the visit to Laos by Asa Sarasin on this occasion. He said:

[Begin Phoun Sipaseut recording] At my invitation, Asa Sarasin, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, is paying an official visit to Laos. This is his first visit to Laos. I feel highly honored to note that Laos is the first country that the Thai minister chose to visit since the formation of the new government. This shows that Thailand has considered Laos a significant country that it must pay attention to in particular. I am elated that Thailand has come to profoundly understand the relations between the two countries. [passage indistinct] The talks will be held in furtherance of the meeting which was held during my recent visit to Bangkok. I hope that following the talks, we can reach (?and sign) an agreement on the establishment of mechanisms for further implementation [words indistinct] and many other fields between the two countries. [Words indistinct] will hold further consultations. As for the third committee, it has already been set up and it will be authorized to continue to perform the work. The said mechanism, if set up, will bring about the successful fulfillment of the objectives of the leadership, be it the military or the government, as already agreed upon by the two sides. It will also contribute to (?improving) the bilateral relations [words indistinct].

I therefore highly appreciate this visit. Today, we have begun the talks. The talks proceeded in a cordial atmosphere. The two sides discussed many issues, on both bilateral relations and the regional problem. The discussion was aimed at understanding each other's views so that each country can have a role in contributing to settling the regional problem. [end recording]

Deputy Minister's Views

BK0905074791 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Souban Salitthilat, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], held a news briefing on the official meeting and talks between the LPDR Government delegation led by Foreign Affairs Minister Phoun Sipaseut and the government delegation of the Kingdom of Thailand led by Foreign Affairs Minister Asa Sarasin. He pointed to various issues raised for discussion and issues agreed upon, as well as the cordial atmosphere of talks between the two sides.

[Begin Souban Salitthilat recording] In the consultations held this morning between Phoun Sipaseut and His Excellency Asa Sarasin, the two ministers reviewed the issues that have already been discussed in Bangkok [during Phoun Sipaseut's recent visit] as well as in Vientiane during the visit to Vientiane by General Suchinda Khraprayun [Thai army chief]. The basic objective of the talks is to find means to turn those agreements into actual practice through a concrete organizing [words indistinct].

The most important point is that the two sides have agreed to set up common committees for cooperation. [passage indistinct] agreements have been reached on many issues, such as the problem of a transport company. Regarding the transport company, in the past only the Thai Express Transportation Organization was authorized to transport goods. Now the Thai side has come to understand the Lao side's desire on this issue. It has allowed the Lao side to choose whatever Thai company it likes to transport goods to or from Laos. They also discussed the problem of (?importing Lao goods) to Thailand. In principle, the Thai side has agreed to reduce the rate of import tax for Lao goods and agricultural products by 20 percent. This has showed the Thai side's understanding towards the Lao Government's plan to improve and develop its (?businesses). Details of this issue will be further discussed between the two sides in order to move forward to reach an agreement on taxes. [passage indistinct]

To ensure that the various agreements are promptly, completely, and thoroughly implemented, [words indistinct] the Thai side will send officials to Laos and grant scholarships to Lao students. [passage indistinct] Regarding the scholarships, the Thai side has agreed that in the years to come it will provide scholarships to some 230 Lao students. The two sides will later hold discussions on details of the fields and duration of the scholarships.

The two sides then discussed the refugee problem. Regarding this, the Lao side proposed that a tripartite meeting be held. This means a meeting between Laos, Thailand, and the United Nations Office of the High Commission for Refugees. It has been agreed that the meeting be held in (?Luang Prabang) from 24-27 June 1991 to discuss means to settle the refugee problem. The refugee problem is considered a difficult problem. The difficult point is that certain persons in refugee centers have carried out adverse activities aimed at sabotaging the tranquility of the Lao people. These persons have even come out of the refugee camps and carried out (?illegal) activities in Thailand. When the two sides discuss a draft agreement on the setting up of a committee in charge of public security in the border areas, they will discuss this issue again.

In addition, the two sides discussed the cooperation in controlling and supervising [words indistinct], such as the exchange of information. Regarding this, the Thai side informed the Lao side of the Thai side's past activities. It also noted Thai efforts to contribute to resolving the Cambodian problem. The Lao side hailed the great efforts of the current Thai Government to settle the Cambodian problem.

I see that the meeting proceeded in a very cordial atmosphere. The two ministers have been acquainted with each other for a long time. Recently, Phoun Sipaseut has also visited Thailand, during which time he held consultations with Asa Sarasin. They have come to understand each other's problems and understand how to solve the problems together.

Another point noted in the meeting is that Thailand and Laos have now maintained a new, good trend for the development of bilateral relations. [words indistinct] The Thai side has clearly stated that it will dispel all suspicions of the two sides. [end recording]

Philippines

Reportage on Ratification of U.S. Bases Treaty

Next Government Given Empowerment

HK0905044591 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 8 May 91 p 1

[By staff members Bert Castro, Johanna Son, Lito Zulueta, and Manny Mogato]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus yesterday said Manila had agreed to empower the government succeeding that of President Aquino to unilaterally extend the bases treaty after seven years, in exchange for an annual compensation of $825 million.

U.S. embassy spokesman Stanley Schrager said this extension clause was "something similar to what we like," but denied the compensation issue had been settled as Manglapus had earlier claimed.

"From the American point of view, there has been no agreement," Schrager said. Manglapus said the other day that only the duration issue remained to be resolved after Washington had agreed to Manila's demand for $825 million.

The two sides have been denying each other's claims the past few days, and the exchanges mounted after U.S. President George Bush said his government would not give Manila a "blank check" for the bases.

Mrs. Aquino said a seventh round of talks might push through, but Senate President Jovito Salonga and Senators Sotero Laurel and Aquilino Pimentel urged the government to, instead, start discussing the closure of the bases.

Withdrawal, they said, should now be taken up because there seemed to be little chance of the talks' making any headway and the Senate was in no mood to ratify any new bases treaty.

The next round of negotiations may be held late this month.

"It is too early to talk about the failure of the negotiations. We are still talking and many things can still happen," the President said, adding that the government was awaiting word from the U.S. on the resumption of the talks.

The U.S. has been asking for a 10-year extension, while Manila wants only seven years. Washington had also offered a mere $360 million in annual compensation which, based on Manglapus' pronouncements, no longer applied.

In an interview, Manglapus said the Philippine government had earlier rejected the U.S. proposal for a 10-year duration in exchange for $825 million in annual rent and $50 million in debt condonation.

The U.S. panel dropped its original proposal after Manglapus had told them "that more important than the three-year difference in our duration offers is the clause which we accepted at (your) suggestions."

The clause would, in effect, give the succeeding administration the privilege to allow U.S. forces to continue to stay here.

If incorporated in the treaty, negotiations would no longer be needed to extend the bases' stay beyond seven years.

But observers fear the clause would prompt the U.S. to support existing political parties in the 1992 elections to ensure that this would, indeed, happen.

Speaking before the Eastern European Conference on Trade at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Manglapus said he was not discounting other favorable possibilities on the Philippine offer for a $50-million condonation.

"I'm not saying that they accepted it. I'm also not saying they rejected it," Manglapus said, adding that "we have been flexible" on any U.S. counterproposals to accommodate the condonation offer.

The Philippine panel had included debt condonation as part of the soft component of the compensation package. This means that the $50-million debt will not be included in the total amount to be appropriated by the U.S. Congress in the U.S. budget.

The Philippine panel had repeatedly displayed flexibility and creativeness in striking a deal with its counterpart, Manglapus said.

He stressed that the Philippines had accepted the U.S. offer of $150 million in excess military equipment, including the quantification of the "Buy-Philippines program as a result of the waiver of the balance of payments to the extent of $100 million."

He said the Philippine panel even accepted small amounts, covering expenses for the training of Filipino military officers in the U.S. as part of the soft component of the compensation package.

He added that Armitage returned to Washington to get new instructions on the duration and compensation issues, the focus of disagreements between the two panels.

Armed forces officials said Washington has promised to deliver $10.44-million-worth of non-lethal equipment under its military assistance package to the Philippines, and $60 million worth of equipment under its 1990 Foreign Military Fund Package.

Senators Reject Unilateral Extension

HK0905044991 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 9 May 91 pp 1, 2

[By reporters Jose H. Macaspac III and Arthur I. Bariuad]

[Text] Several senators yesterday rejected a proposed clause in the bases treaty which would allow the administration succeeding the Aquino government to unilaterally decide to extend American military presence in the country even after the seven years extension offered by the Philippine panel.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus had earlier admitted that the Philippine panel had agreed to the inclusion of the extension clause if the U.S. accepted its offer for a seven-year extension after the expiration of the current bases treaty in September.

He clarified, however, that the provision stipulated that the Philippine goverment, if it so desires, may unilaterally review the bases treaty to determine if national interests warrant future discussions with the U.S. on post-treaty arrangements.

"This is not a unilateral extension provision as claimed by some," Manglapus said.

The foreign secretary also backtracked from an earlier claim that the compensation issue had been settled and that Washington had accepted Manila's compensation demand in exchange for a longer duration of extension.

In a statement released to the press by the Foreign Office, Manglapus noted that "Our discussion with the U.S. indicate they would agree to our total figure of $825 million per year of compensation *on the condition* that they be given a duration longer than seven years, which we cannot accept." "This conditional acceptance by the U.S. of our total figure, although still subject to further discussion of its details, clearly indicates that it is reasonable and can be met by them, if they so desire," Manglapus added.

However, Manglapus maintained that the "main issue preventing closure on the negotiations is that of duration."

While Manglapus made no mention of Philippine acceptance of the U.S. demand, he stressed that the "Philippine position on duration and compensation is firm."

He said that the Philippine panel wants a "maximum duration of seven years, for a minimum compensation package of $825 million a year, where $400 million would be in appropriated funds and $425 million in non-budgetary forms of assistance."

"We believe that our position of seven years is mutually responsive to the needs of both countries," Manglapus said.

Senate President Jovito Salonga, who had often expressed the chamber's dissatisfaction over the new treaty's terms and warned that the Senate would reject it if they were not changed, said the Manglapus proposal was totally "unnecessary," adding that the Philippine negotiators should carefully analyze the long-term implications of their proposals.

Aside from Salonga, three other senators—Ernesto Maceda, Aquilino Pimentel and Leticia Ramos Shahani—believed that Manglapus, head of the Philippine bases panel, had no authority to bind the next administration to any agreement he would enter into with American bases negotiators.

All legislators said that such an option "is for the next administration to decide."

Salonga said the new treaty need not specify that the next administration could unilaterally decide to extend the stay of U.S. military bases here.

Maceda, for his part, called for propriety from Manglapus in trying to enter into commitments with the U.S.

He said it was not for Manglapus to compromise the next administration to a deal which the Aquino administration was responsible for.

"In principle, it did not sound right that he (Manglapus) would propose something that would require action by the next administration," Maceda said.

Pimentel, one of the senators openly advocating for an end to what he calls oppressive military presence, said Manglapus was going about negotiating with the Americans the wrong way.

"Manglapus sounded like he was begging on bended knees for the Americans to stay despite the arrogance displayed by U.S. negotiators and top U.S. officials," Pimentel said.

He added that Manglapus, instead of hoping that an agreement on the bases would still be reached, should be the one to call off the negotiations.

Pimentel said: "It's time we stood up against them."

Shahani, meanwhile, said she believed the revised treaty proposed by Manglapus would be eventually rejected in the Senate, expressing the sentiments of a majority in the chamber.

She said, however, that the more interesting matter is the compensation package, not the duration.

She said the amount being offered by the U.S. too low and this would certainly contribute to a Senate decision to disapprove the new agreement.

Under the treaty proposed by Manglapus, the Philippines would receive an $825 million compensation package in exchange for continued American military presence for seven more years.

U.S. panel spokesman Stanley Schrager maintained that no agreement has yet been reached on the issue of compensation and duration. he also said the talks have not collapsed.

Schrager said that the U.S. panel wanted a longer duration plus an access arrangement at the end of an agreed term and this has always been their position. The U.S. panel has repeatedly said that it wants a minimum of ten years for a maximum of $360 million.

7th Round of Talks in Doubt

HK0905045191 Quezon City MALAYA in English 9 May 91 pp 1, 6

[By Cris Larano, with Chit Estella, Romy Tangbawan, and Marie Rose Feliciano]

[Excerpts] A subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives has threatened "to reexamine in detail" financial assistance extended by the U.S. to the Philippines if no new bases treaty is forged.

In a seven-page report drafted in April, the U.S. House subcommittee on Asia and Pacific affairs said: "If negotiations fail to result in an agreement—which seems unlikely at this point—the subcommittee would need to reexamine in detail the entire assistance package for the Philippines."

American financial assistance includes the Economic Stabilization Fund and commitments to the Philippine Assistance Program.

Philippine officials who made available the report yesterday said it was a veiled threat to force the Philippine government to enter into a new treaty on terms and conditions set by the Americans.

Meanwhile, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said reports that the U.S. has accepted the $825-million compensation package are inaccurate.

He said the acceptance of U.S. special negotiator Richard Armitage was "conditional"—that the $825 million annual compensation package will cover a 10- to 12-year extension.

"There is no acceptance either way," Manglapus said.

Last Sunday, Manglapus said the RP [Republic of the Philippines] and U.S. panels failed to reach an agreement in the sixth round of talks because of the issue of duration.

On Monday, he virtually accused President Bush of bad faith when the latter said the U.S. was not offering a blank check to keep their bases here.

The following day, he accused the Americans of "changing the issue." He said, "The issue is not compensation as they've already agreed to $825 million. It's just duration."

U.S. Embassy spokesman Stanley Schrager said Manglapus' claim "is simply not true."

Negotiations ended in a deadlock Friday, with both panels insisting on their respective proposals.

The Philippines stood pat on its demand for an annual compensation package of $825 million—$400 million in hard cash and the rest in trade agreements—for a seven-year extension. The U.S. if offering only $360 million, to be appropriated by its Congress, for a minimum 10-year extension.

Other developments:

—A seventh round of bases negotiations to settle differences on issues of duration and compensation may not be held, an official of the Philippine panel said.

—Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus did not rule out the possibility that President Aquino and U.S. President Bush will intervene to break the deadlock in the bases talks. He, however, said there was no expressed intention from both Presidents to meet.

—Senators chided Manglapus for allegedly trying to evade the issue of duration, referring to Manglapus' statement that the issue of duration is "for the next administration to decide." [passage omitted]

The Philippine panel official, who requested anonymity, said "There might not be a seventh round (of talks)...The outstanding issues of duration and compensation can only be settled at the political level, not by the panels."

Last Tuesday, a panel member raised the possibility of direct talks between Mrs. Aquino and President Bush. The panel member said the twin issues of compensation and duration are "political issues" that need "presidential intervention."

Manglapus, asked on the possibility of Mrs. Aquino meeting with Bush, said: "Well, we both enjoy the presidential system and in the presidential system everything that is conducted by the executive is ultimately the will of the President. Therefore, it is not incorrect to say that both presidents have indeed an ultimate say in this," Manglapus said.

"That is not to say, however, that there is any intention for the two of them to talk about it," he added.

Senate President Jovito Salonga (LP) [Liberal Party] said it was "unnecessary" to include in a new treaty a clause permitting U.S. access after the extension period.

Manglapus has earlier said the Philippine panel has agreed to include such clause as suggested by the U.S. panel. But the clause was modified to allow the future Philippine administration to "unilaterally review" the need for such access. The current agreement provides for mutual determination.

The Americans reportedly found the modified clause unacceptable as they reverted to their demand for a 10- to 12-year extension. Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. (PDP-Laban) [Pilipino Democratic Party-Nation's Strength] said the clause would run counter to the Constitution which provides that no foreign troops should be allowed into the country after the expiration of the current MBA [Military Bases Agreement], unless the agreement is renewed under a new treaty ratified by the Senate.

In an apparent turnaround from his more accommodating stance the past months, Pimentel urged Manglapus to notify the U.S. that the Philippines is cancelling the talks.

U.S. Proposal Rejected

HK0905065091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0635 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Manila, May 9 (AFP)—The Philippines Thursday rejected a U.S. Government proposal for a new military bases agreement which would allow the two sides to extend the lease by mutual consent after seven years.

Foreign Secretary and chief Philippine negotiator Raul Manglapus reiterated his government's offer of a maximum seven-year treaty with Manila retaining the sole option to extend the treaty.

The latest round in the year-old talks bogged down last week over the duration of a new treaty and how much

Washington should compensate Manila for Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base, the largest U.S. overseas military facilities, whose lease runs out in September.

The U.S. proposal "is a proposal that we have rejected," Mr. Manglapus told a news conference. "The Philippine position is a possible extension of access which will have to be a unilateral action and not a bilateral decision."

Washington had previously sought an agreement of at least 10 years for a maximum compensation of 556 million dollars annually. Manila is seeking a minimum yearly compensation of 825 million dollars.

Mr. Manglapus said U.S. negotiators "wanted to give the treaty a character of openness through the possibility of their staying on in the form of access."

The Philippine Senate, which must ratify a new treaty, is currently opposed to a new bases agreement. Manila is suggesting that by signing a treaty that would be acceptable to the present Senate, the next government, with a friendlier Senate, would be agreeable to extend the new lease.

Mr. Manglapus rejected criticism that Manila's suggestion that it could unilaterally decide to extend the proposed new lease would be a violation of the Constitution.

Manglapus on Further Talks

OW0905081691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0806 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Manila, May 9 KYODO—Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said Thursday there is no reason for the Philippines to break off talks with the United States on the future of U.S. military bases in the country, adding that a new round of negotiations is still possible.

What had been expected to be the final round of talks concluded last Friday with no agreement.

He also said that, even if no treaty is concluded, American troops can stay in the country past the expiration of the current lease September 16 "as long as there is a friendly withdrawal arrangement."

Manglapus said it would only be "reasonable" for the Philippines to give the U.S. enough time to wind up its withdrawal from the country. U.S. officials have said American forces need at least eight months to move out.

Under the Philippine Constitution, no foreign troops or military facilities can stay in the country after September 16 unless this is provided for in a treaty ratified by the Senate and, if Congress desires, by the people in a plebiscite.

"The talks are still going on, Manglapus said, adding that delays in the meetings and exchanges of harsh words are "not unusual developments in negotiations."

"I see no reason for forecasting anything at this point except for the continuation of the talks," he told reporters when asked if there was a great possibility that the Philippines would break off the talks altogether.

Philippine Senate leaders have urged President Corazon Aquino to end the talks and ask the Americans to leave, saying the country has taken enough "insults" from the Americans.

Over the weekend, U.S. President George Bush said Washington is not prepared to issue a "blank check" for the continued use of the facilities.

U.S. panel spokesman Stanley Schrager said last Friday that U.S. chief negotiator Richard Armitage was going back to Washington "not to get more money" but just to report to Bush on the talks.

The Philippines has proposed a seven-year treaty with annual compensation of 825 million dollars, while the U.S. has offered to pay 360 million dollars annually for a 10-year arrangement.

On Saturday, however, Manglapus said the U.S. has tentatively agreed to the 825 million dollar compensation figure on the condition that Manila agrees to a 10-year treaty.

The Philippines has also agreed to include a clause in the treaty that will allow the next Philippine administration to unilaterally decide after the treaty expires whether to extend the bases' stay.

Government Defers $3-Billion Bond Sale

HK0905051791 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 9 May 91 pp 1, 10

[By staff members Arleen Chipongian and Corrie Narisma with Johanna Son, Bert Castro, and Manny Mogato]

[Text] The Philippine government will defer the floating of $3 billion-worth of dollar-denominated reconstruction and development bonds following the collapse of the bases negotiations, Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao told reporters yesterday.

Estanislao said the U.S. and the Philippines would have to reach an agreement before the bonds are floated, because "we cannot do it on our own. We need assistance."

According to Estanislao, the bond flotation was part of the overall "cooperation talks" between the U.S. and the Philippines.

In a separate interview, acting Trade and Industry Secretary Peter Garrucho said the government had also insisted on the inclusion of a 50% increase in the Philippine garments' exports quota to the U.S. in the bases compensation package.

Garrucho said the increase would boost the country's garments export earnings by $600 million, from $1.2 billion to $1.8 billion.

He added that the exports, with an estimated value-added of 30-40%, could also provide $180 million to $240 million in additional net dollar earnings.

The Philippine panel had earlier presented the bond flotation proposal to U.S. Chief Negotiator Richard Armitage, who said there was not much enthusiasm for it because of "donor fatigue."

The prospective bond buyers, Armitage noted, were also donors to the Philippine Assistance Program [PAP].

But Estanislao stressed that Asian countries not involved in the PAP but still wanted the bases to provide regional security would be asked to buy the bonds. The U.S. another finance official said, would merely provide "assistance in the transactions for the bonds."

The bonds were viewed as a potential source of dollars for the Philippines, along with loans, grants, export earnings and overseas workers' remittances.

Garrucho said the country wanted to take advantage of the global trend toward trade liberalization, particularly in garments and textiles, after the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt).

He added that an increased garments exports quota would mean more jobs and increased modernization of the country's garments and textile industry.

"We keep looking at the experience of Turkey and Egypt, which had big increases in their quotas largely due to their key roles in the Gulf War," Garrucho said.

"We want to link the two issues (the bases and the garments export quota) together, at least consequentially," a DTI [Department of Trade and Industry] official said.

The Philippine-U.S. Multi-Fiber Agreement, containing bilateral arrangements on garments trade between the two countries, will expire at the end of 1991.

Garrucho will meet with U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills in Washington in late May or eary June to discuss the Uruguay Round, garments quota issues and other trade matters.

Meanwhile, Senate President Jovito Salonga and Sen. Ernesto Maceda deemed as "unnecessary" the special clause in any bases agreement allowing the next government to unilaterally extend the stay of U.S. military facilities here.

It goes without saying that the new administration had the power to change the bases treaty or enter into new negotiations, the two said.

"There is no need (for the clause) because that is (for) the next administration to decide," Salonga said.

"This government should not do anything to curtail the next administration," added Maceda, the Senate defense committee chairman.

But Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus denied the clause was unilateral, saying it merely provided that "if the Philippines so desires, it may unilaterally review the installations arrangements to determine if the national interest warrants future discussions with the U.S. on post-treaty arrangements."

The next government, in effect, would have the special privilege of extending or terminating any Philippine-U.S. agreement without requiring the panels of both countries to return to the bargaining table, Manglapus said.

He added that "any post-treaty arrangements must be made in accordance with the Constitution," which requires the Senate to ratify or reject any new bases treaty.

Manglapus reiterated that the Philippine panel had never changed its position on a seven-year stay and an annual rent of $825 million.

Armed forces officials said the U.S. would formally turn over its San Miguel Communications Station in Capas, Tarlac, on May 15 and the Camp John Hay Air Station in Baguio City on July 1.

The San Miguel station measures 1,100 ha and provides communications services for U.S. naval vessels, particularly the U.S. Seventh Fleet, in the Pacific.

Camp John Hay measures 500 ha and serves as a rest-and-recreation center for U.S. servicemen and Filipinos as well.

World Bank Cautions Goverment on Budget Surplus

HK0905052191 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 9 May 91 pp 1, 7

[By Ma. Gertrudes M. Chavez]

[Text] The World Bank [WB] has cautioned Government on its continuing accumulation of a surplus in the national budget. This could have a "deleterious effect" on public investments, Finance Secretary Jesus P. Estanislao yesterday said, quoting WB officials.

On the other hand, the International Monetary Fund is satisfied with the budget surplus, considered an achievement for a government that has been on a deficit perennially, he said.

As of April 15, Government posted a cash budget surplus of P4.69 [pesos] billion as against a programmed deficit level of P23.6 billion for the period. Revenues stood at P60.92 billion, or P10.89 billion higher than the projected P50.03 billion. Expenditures, on the other hand, amounted to only P56.23 billion, or P17.4 billion less than the P73.63-billion target.

spending, it will take time to get everyone on an expenditure footing, he told BUSINESS WORLD.

The budget surplus is expected to turn into a deficit beginning in the second semester.

Manila Agrees To 'Toronto' Debt Relief Terms

HK0905052391 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 9 May 91 p 8

[By Andres B. Saracho and Rexie M. Reyes]

[Text] The Philippine government has agreed in principle to adopt the Toronto terms in seeking debt relief from the Paris Club, official sources said yesterday.

Under these terms—similar to what the Group of Seven has agreed in June 1988 to provide heavily-indebted countries—the country stands to save an estimated $1.533 billion in nominal cash flows over the next two years.

Formal communications with the 14 Paris Club member-nations are currently under way to inform them of the government's decision in preparation for the fourth round of debt restructuring talks on June 18.

Sources emphasized, however, that the Toronto term option could still change depending on how the official creditors would respond to the communications.

"We would like to test the waters first," the sources said.

One other option which the Philippines would take, the sources said, is the standard Paris Club terms that would involve the rescheduling of official debts on the same interest and repayment terms as in the third agreement.

This is expected to yield cash flow savings of $1.436 billion for the country.

Both the Toronto and the standard terms have been favored in lieu of the near-Polish formula which, if pursued, may jeopardize the availment of official development assistance from Japan, the Philippines's biggest creditor-nation.

In a recent visit to the Philippines, Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu strongly warned against any moves to write-off debts as in the case of Poland.

The near-Polish terms would have provided the country an estimated cash flow savings of $1.51 billion.

Documents obtained by NEWSDAY showed that using the Near-Polish formula, the country's foreign debt stock would be reduced by $511.14 million by end-1992.

In contrast, foreign bebt payments under the Toronto terms are projected to increase moderately to $471.68 million and a substantial $607.49 million using the standard Paris Club terms.

In pursuing the Toronto terms, the sources said the creditors are allowed to choose from three rescheduling options to take into account the different legal and financial constraints of each creditor-nation.

"The most attractive part of the Toronto terms is the specific provision for the rescheduling of ODA [Official Development Assistance] debts which combine the longest repayment period under the options with an explicit reference to concessional interest rates," the sources said.

In addition, the Toronto terms are "more easily attainable" since the Paris Club members have recently extended these terms to some middle-income, heavily-indebted countries such as Bolivia and Senegal, they said.

The Philippines falls under the same category as these two countries.

Repayment tersm under the Toronto formula range from 14 to 25 years for both the ODA and non-ODA debts while the grace period is from eight to 14 years. Interest for non-ODA debts will be pegged at market rates while ODA debts will carry highly-concessional rates.

Manila Rules Out Official Contact With Taiwan

HK0905050591 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 9 May 91 pp 1, 10

[By staff member Lito Zulueta]

[Text] Manila cannot hold semi-official talks with Taipei on a nagging maritime dispute as suggested by some Taiwanese quarters since this would give the island-country diplomatic status, Foreign Undersecretary Manuel Yan said yesterday.

Two key House leaders instead proposed to President Aquino the signing of fisheries cooperation agreement by the chambers of commerce of the Philippines and Taiwan to resolve the maritime dispute between the two countries.

The proposal was made by House Majority Leader Francisco Sumulong (Rizal) and Rep. [Representative] Jose de Venecia (Pangasinan).

Yan, in a talk with Malacanang reporters, said Manila could not even agree to a "modus vivendi" or a working plan with which to resolve future disputes since the Philippines adheres to the "one-China" policy of recognizing only the socialist mainland.

As such, Yan said Manila has "no territorial dispute" with Taipei.

"Taiwan is a province of China, we don't have a territorial dispute with Taiwan," said Yan.

The foreign affairs official said Taiwan is "sore" about the recent arrest by the Philippine Coast Guard of nine Taiwanese fishermen and the seizure of three vessels off northern Philippines.

Yan maintained the arest was legitimate.

"A country that fishes on our waters is violating our maritime rule ...(and its fishermen) will be arested, in the same way that our fishermen are arrested if they fish in our neighboring countries' waters," he aid.

Yan also dismissed Taiwan's threat to impose economic sanctions, as it has already done so by suspending last week the importation of 4,500 metric tons of fresh coconuts from the Philippines.

"I don't know about the threat, but certainly if they fish in our waters, they'll be arrested," he said.

Yan said Manila wishes to see a continuation of economic relations with Taiwan, but Philippine laws should be respected.

"We want their investment here, we want to trade with them, but certainly, they should respect our laws. If they violate them, they will be apprehended," he said.

Earlier, Mrs Aquino formed the South China Sea Fishery Disputes Committee to seek solutions to "frequent disputes arising between foreign fishing vessels" and the Philippines.

In a statement, Mrs Aquino also placed Taiwanese feelings while maintaining the arrest of the Taiwanese fishermen was legal.

"While we must protect our rich seas from fishermen of other lands illegally harvesting their catch from Philippine waters, we must also remember that these fishers come from friendly lands which are our neighbors," she said.

De Venecia, chairman of the House committee on foreign relations, earlier made the recommendation on a fisheries cooperation agreement between chambers of commerce of the two countries to the interagency south China Sea Fishery Disputes Committee, the body formed by Mrs Aquino to look for solutions to "frequent disputes arising between foreign fishing vessels" and the Philippines.

De Venecia and Sumulong, who met Mrs Aquino yesterday, said the Executive should initiate the agreement, but only at the level of the chambers of commerce of the two countries or their private offices "so that we don't bump into the one-China policy."

De Venecia said the talks should be held in sub-official levels so as not to risk offending socialist China, which the Philippines officially recognizes.

Thailand

Delegation's Activities in Middle East Reported

BK0905101991 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] Phaithun Hiranyapradit, assistant chief of the Thai Information Office in Riyadh, has reported today that the 22-member Thai delegation comprising Chef de Mission Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Commerce Ministry Chalo Fuangarom, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Interior Ministry Chuwong Chayabut, senior officials of the Interior Ministry, businessmen in the fields of labor and industry, and television and newspaper reporters are on their way to visit Iran to strengthen Thai-Iranian bilateral relations and expand the market for Thai goods in that country.

Regarding their trips to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, the Prime Minister's Office minister reported that, due to some inconvenience in arranging an audience with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, the delegation had an opportunity to call on his younger brother Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the Saudi deputy prime minister and defense minister, in Riyadh. Kasemsamoson delivered the message from the King of Thailand to the Saudi prince for further delivery to King Fahd. It is therefore believed that the relations between Thailand and Saudi Arabia will improve steadily. However, we informed the Saudi counterpart that the Thai workers are of great skills in the field of construction and also in other fields. Therefore, they should be given opportunity to participate in the development of Kuwait [as heard], said Kasemsamoson.

In Kuwait, the Thai delegation had a chance to call on Kuwaiti Prime Minister Crown Prince Sheikh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah' al-Sabah at the Bayan Palace. The Thai chief of delegation delivered the message from Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun to the Kuwaiti prime minister to express the spirit of the Thai Government and to inform the Kuwaiti leader that Thailand will further give 1,000 metric tons of fragrant rice to the Kuwaiti Government. On this occasion, the Kuwaiti prime minister invited Thai workers to return to work in Kuwait right away.

Preliminary Pact To Sell Rice to Iraq Concluded

BK0905025991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 May 91 p B1

[By Atchara Phongvutitham]

[Text] Thai rice exporters have concluded a preliminary agreement to sell 200,000 tonnes of rice to Iraq.

The Thai Rice Exporters Association will also ask the Foreign Ministry to negotiate with the United Nations for the release of some of Iraq's assets so that it can pay for the 200,000 tonnes of Thai rice.

Iraq has signalled that it was ready to place a new order for rice, but that its overseas assets were still frozen and economic sanctions were still in force following its invasion of Kuwait last year.

Sources said that the association would also ask the Bank of Thailand to extend a low interest credit to cover the new rice shipment to Iraq.

Woraphong Phitchayaphong, vice president of the Thai Rice Exporters Association, said Iraq wished to place an order for 200,000 tonnes of quality rice costing US$326 FOB [free on board] per tonne or a total of Bt [baht] 1.6-1.7 billion.

But the UN's trade sanction bars trade with Iraq, and Thai rice exporters want Baghdad to pay for the rice with cash.

Iraq still owes Thai rice exporters Bt1.7 billion for shipments made, but not yet paid for when the Gulf crisis broke out.

HCM City Official Leads Visiting Trade Group

BK0905033791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 May 91 p 24

[Text] A 13-member Vietnamese delegation is in Thailand to observe the country's trade and investment policy and discuss the possibility of expanding bilateral trade.

Department of Export Promotin Director-General Oranut Osathanon said yesterday the mission, led by Ho Chi Minh [HCM] City People's Committee vice-chairman Phnam Chanh Truc, was part of an ESCAP [Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific] project to promote trade and investment in Vietnam.

She said while here, the mission would meet senior executives from the Board of Trade, the federation of Thai Industries, the Board of Investment, and the Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand.

Mrs Oranut said the mission's visit also would benefit Thailand's trade with Vietnam on the grounds that Ho Chi Minh was considered a trade centre where a deep-sea port and various industries, including canned seafood, furniture and gems and jewelry, were located.

The Thai side proposed to sell electrical appliances, machinery, bicycles and household items to Vietnam.

Anan Cuts Red Tape for Foreign Business

BK0905022991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 May 91 p A10

[Speech by Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun to the Foreign Chambers of Commerce in Bangkok on 8 May outlining the government's five-point policy agenda]

[Text] I would like to begin by thanking all of you for the important role you have played and continue to play, as members of the Foreign Chambers of Commerce, in helping to strengthen trade and investment relations between Thailand and your respective countries. Your understanding of our deeply held values and commitment to build a free prosperous and just society is even more important at this time of transition. Given your experience in, and knowledge of Thailand, you are in a unique position to help clarify our situation to your fellow countrymen. And in this, I ask for your continued help.

My colleagues and I in the Cabinet are keenly aware of our very brief tenure as an interim government. We feel a deep sense of responsibility and obligation as custodians—however temporary—of our nation's future. Our agenda is clear, if daunting.

—First, we wish to build a firm and stable foundation for a genuine democratic system that will be sustainable, take root and flourish.

—Second, we wish to put in place a government system that is transparent, accountable and responsive, and that will last well beyond the life of this interim Cabinet, with the expection that, in the future, irregular practices leading to corruption will be kept to a minimum.

—Third, we wish to strengthen the competitiveness of this country's economy so that it will continue to provide a rising level of income for all our citizens.

—Fourth, we wish to improve the quality of life of the poor and the underprivileged, to share more widely the benefits of economic growth.

—Fifth and last, we wish to address the problems of our deteriorating physical environment, both to respond to pressing needs, and to guard our resource base for future generations.

First Priority

The first priority of the interim government is to help put this country back on the road to parliamentary democracy. The interim Constitution clearly specifies a time frame for a general election, affirming our commitment to return to a fully democratic process in the next seven to twelve months. To facilitate this, the Interior Ministry has already started to make initial preparations for an election that will be held under the new Constitution presently being drafted. An interim Cabinet that does not include professional politicians can act as a neutral, non-partisan referee to oversee the election process. We are determined to make the upcoming general election open, fair and competitive.

A further area where we feel our interim government can make legitimate, effective and lasting contributions is in the reform of the government system. After only two months in office, we have already begun to implement key reforms in a number of areas, with others in preparation. A draft administrative reform bill was recently approved by the Cabinet and has been presented to the National Legislative Assembly. This bill contains the most far-reaching changes in the recent history of Thai Government administration. One of the most significant features of this bill is the decentralization of government authority. Provincial government officials and the local people will have a greater say in initiating local development activities that affect their daily lives.

Even more vital, the "power of the purse" will also be decentralized: financial authority will be delegated to the local authorities. This is the first genuine breakthrough in the decentralization of power in Thailand.

Further, it is my firm conviction that government should help and not hinder the efforts of the private sector. One key change to support this will be a shift from an emphasis on "pre-audit controls" to "post-audit compliance." In plain language, this means that many of the constraints and hurdles you face in trying to develop new initiatives will be removed and replaced by a clear set of guideline. For example, the licensing system related to commercial activities will be streamlined to allow easier and quicker access. Similarly, more than 120 items have been "decontrolled" in the industrial sector, no longer requiring permission to enter into their production, with others to follow.

We intend to change the fundamental role of government from "regulator and controller" to that of "supporter, promoter and facilitator" to that of development. [sentence as published]

Second Priority

The second general area of reforms relates to the monetary and fiscal domains. A key underlying principle here is to streamline the system's rules and procedures—to rewrite the "rules of the game"—based on the policy of liberalizing the financial system as I announced to the National Legislative Assembly on taking office.

With respect to the monetary domain, foreign exchange services have already been liberalized. Commercial banks have also been given a broader scope in adjusting interest rates. In the fiscal domain, a new and far reaching tax reform bill is at the drafting stage. The intent is to create a tax system that will be easy to understand, convenient to follow, and at the same time is standardized and uniformly fair. The guidelines are equity, enforceability and savings promotion. The new system will be clear and transparent, minimizing the discretionary power of bureaucrats.

This is expected to greatly reduce tax evasion which, in the past, has unfairly shifted the burden to too few shoulders.

Third Priority

Substantively, rationalizing the tax system will involve reducing tax rates to the levels of our key competitors in the international marketplace. This will enhance substantially Thailand's international competitiveness, our third priority.

Improving and sustaining Thailand's international competitiveness is essential in order to assure continued prosperity. To achieve this, relieving infrastructure bottlenecks is high on the agenda of this government. We are therefore moving quickly to complete the final stages of approval on projects that are well along in the process, and will begin implementation of approved projects as soon as possible. In addition to infrastructure, improving competitiveness involves other factors such as upgrading people's skills, improving the technical knowledge base, continuing sound macroeconomic policies and so on. In general, we hope to provide you with compelling arguments to make Thailand the regional centre for the operations of your companies.

Fourth Priority

The fourth priority area is perhaps the most important. This involves improving the quality of life of the poor and the underprivileged. We the more fortunate members of this society to have a responsibility and an obligation to assist those less fortunate. I personally feel very strongly that Thailand will not be able to sustain its development unless those presently marginalized are brought into the mainstream of the economic development process.

This government is, therefore, determined to make significant headway by the time it leaves office in addressing the problems of specific groups such as the poor, the aged and the handicapped. To this end a number of programmes have already been launched. These include a programme to ensure adequate water supplies in every village, a more efficient and more widely available agricultural credit system to assist farmers at times of depressed farm prices, and better housing and income generating opportunities for the slum population nationwide and the urban poor. The successful development of any society must be measured against the well being of its least fortunate members.

Fifth Priority

The fifth priority of this government is a focus on the physical environment. Although this is a global problem that affects all our countries and ultimately requires global solutions, we in Thailand cannot and must not shirk our domestic responsibilities in addressing it.

As I see it, this issue has two important dimensions. It involves addressing existing problems such as pollution in its many forms. As a response to these immediate concerns we are developing programmes to deal with specific problems such as solid waste, waste water, toxic and hazardous wastes, and the air pollution that is increasingly evident every time I step outside my door. To be more honest, I can even feel it inside my own house. These measures and others being formulated should lead to a more livable environment for us all.

Beyond the problems of today, we have a responsibility to future generations. The physical resources of our country belong not only to us, but to our children and to their children. I see us as holding these resources "in trust" for generations to come. We have, therefore, a unique responsibility to safeguard the physical environment so that Thailand's economic development will be physicaly sustainable. This is a task that requires the ongoing dedication and efforts of us all.

These are times of change, of challenge, of oppportunity. As leading members of the foreign business community in Thailand, I look to your assistance in the future, as in the past. I look to you to help us achieve a prosperous and equitable society, one that can guarantee a rising standard of living to all its citizens. I trust that you, as friends of Thailand, share my aspirations for this country, and will help in making them become reality.

I am confident that with your help and cooperation this government can achieve what it set out to do or begin a process that future governments can continue and intensify.

Down-to-Earth Issues

Thus far, I have tried to give you a clear and straightforward presentation of the general economic and policy goals and directions of the present administration. Before concluding my address today, I would like to examine some more down-to-earth issues that should interest you all.

About one month ago, when I accepted the invitation to address this distinguished gathering, I asked the Foreign Chambers (of Commerce) as a group to prepare for me a list of the main "hassle" factors that particularly affect foreign firms doing business in Thailand. The Foreign Chambers promptly replied with a "wish list" under five headings.

In order to pre-empt a number of likely questions from the floor, I would like to report to you on the homework that my administration has already carried out regarding these five issues.

Tax clearances: I am well aware that tax clearances have long been a major inconvenience to foreigners working in Thailand, especially those who have to travel abroad often. As such, I am pleased to be able to announce today that, as of May 10, almost all foreigners working in Thailand will no longer require a tax clearance before leaving the country.

Tax clearances will only be required for two types of foreigners before leaving Thailand, namely: those who try to avoid paying the amounts of taxes which have already been assessed by the Revenue Department, and those who are, by law, liable to pay taxes on behalf of companies incorporated under foreign laws which carry out business in Thailand.

The only regret that I have is that the vast majority of you will no longer have the opportunity to view our beautiful Wat Phra Kaeo on the way to the Revenue Department office to pick up your tax clearance forms.

Work permits: Regarding work permits, I am pleased to inform you that explicit instructions have been given to the Labour Department and the Immigration Division to streamline procedures and to coordinate their efforts in issuing work permits and visas. The Labour Department will now process a properly completed work permit application within two weeks and the need to travel back and forth between Din Daeng and Soi Suan Plu to coordinate the visas and work permit applications will be substantially reduced.

Streamlining of customs procedures: This is a particularly thorny but clearly important issue. I have already mentioned that the tax system in Thailand will be rationalized. This will cover both the levels and structure of taxes as well as the implementation of the tax system. The administration of import and export tariffs and regulations has long been a main cause of complaints from private business in Thailand, as indeed it is in many other nations.

In addition to ongoing efforts to reduce the number of steps and generally simplify customs procedures, a study recently carried out for the Office of the BoI [Board of Investment] specifically evaluated the situation. The preliminary draft indicated the need to modernize and computerize the Customs Department in order to bring Thailand up to the standards of her neighbours and facilitate international trading activities. My government will be carefully examining these and other recommendations in the next several months and we shall instigate a thorough overhaul of the customs process.

Imposition of criminal penalties for civil offences: This is one of many problems caused by a legal structure that is frequently outdated and inappropriate for business activities in the modern world environment. As you are no doubt all aware, Minister Michai Ruchuphan is presently supervising the overhauling of the entire body of legal statutes governing the commercial sector in Thailand. I can assure you that the archaic practice of imposing relatively severe criminal penalties for what are frequently administrative oversights or innocent corporate errors will be explicitly dealt with in the legal revision process.

Regional offices: I mentioned earlier in my presentation that we hope to encourage foreign companies to make Thailand the centre for their operations in the region. As such, I was particularly worried to hear about the conditions reported to me by the Foreign Chambers that inhibit the setting up of regional offices in Thailand.

However, upon looking more closely at the constraints cited by the Foreign Chambers—namely legal and accounting procedures, work permits, taxation, and import/export procedures—I am relieved to observe that I have already covered them all in my presentation today. Nevertheless, we shall make every effort to ensure that any additional specific constraints to the establishment of regional offices are addressed. As a beginning, I would like to add that my administration will push hard to ensure that the bill permitting foreign ownership of condominiums is passed during our tenure of government.

I hope that these concrete examples provide you with some reassurance that my government is not simply talking about making reforms. We have been and will continue to be responsive to the needs and concerns of the private business community—both Thai and foreign.

Ministries To Form Policies on Trade Dispute

BK0805144791 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] The government has assigned five ministries to consider Thailand's stand over the United States listing of Thailand as a priority foreign country. Briefing reporters about progress of the issue at the exhibition center of the Export Promotion Department this morning, Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on said that the five ministries would meet to formulate the country's stand over the issue, as well as the drug patent issue. He said that all would be based on the basis of national interest.

[Begin Amaret recording, in progress] We still have six to nine months to talk over this issue. It is useless to be in a hurry. We have to formulate a common stand. At the same time, we have to watch how China and India will tackle this issue and develop their stands. So we should not do anything hastily. We should discuss this issue patiently. I feel that some people have now begun to speak with emotion and without reason. We should discuss this when they have calmed down. If we speak too much, the opposite side will know all our ideas and positions. It will yield no benefit if we speak too much at this period. [end recording]

Vietnam

Counterintelligence Leader Gives VNA Interview

BK0805112591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 7 May 91

["Full text" of interview with "leader of the General Department of Counterintelligence" by VNA, VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY, on "the situation of political security and social order and safety"—as published in 7 May NHAN DAN; date of interview not given]

[Text] [VNA] Comrade, would you please describe for us some features of the ideological sabotage activities undertaken against Vietnam by various hostile and reactionary forces outside the country?

[Leader] The hostile forces, among them the exiled Vietnamese reactionaries, have launched a series of plans and campaigns aimed at opposing and sabotaging our country, such as the "Cross the Waves" and "Octopus" plans and the "Transfer the Flames to the Homeland" and "Gather the Winds To Create A Storm" campaigns. They have made every effort to make contacts with and incite a number of hostile and reactionary elements and some discontent elements opposed to the socialist regime in the country to realize these campaigns. Their goal is to sabotage us in all fields—political, economic, cultural, and ideological. They demand implementation of political pluralism and multipartyism, and criticize the public security forces and the army in an attempt to isolate them. In fact, their aim is to deform and eventually to overthrow the socialist system in Vietnam, thereby making our nation dependent on imperialist forces.

The closer we move toward the Seventh National Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the more feverishly they act. They consider this an opportunity to intensify their sabotage activities in the hopes of creating political instability that would lead to sudden changes. With this, they aim to bring pressure to bear on us and to demand that we accept a nonsocialist path. They have dispatched many groups of spies and commandos to infiltrate into our country and make contact with local reactionaries in an attempt to stir up rebellions and subversive activities.

Le Quoc Tuy, Mai Van Hanh, Vo Dai Ton, Hoang Co Minh, and Dang Van Than are the shock troopers in these plans. What tragic ends they have met is now public knowledge. At present, the losers of the former puppet regime, such as Nguyen Van Thieu, Nguyen Cao Ky, and Vu Quoc Thuc, are going to many countries to carry out propaganda and whip up support, mainly from among members of the former puppet army and administration. But not every one of these elements agrees to back them; many have denounced and exposed them. They are nurturing the illusion of Sisyphus.

In their ideological sabotage activities, the main tools they use are radio stations and the press. At present, there are a score of Vietnamese language radio stations run by some Western countries and the exiled reactionaries. As for the press, there are dozens of Vietnamese newspapers of the exiled reactionaries in the United States, Canada, Australia, and France. All the editors in chief of these publications are rich anticommunist exiled reactionaries backed and used by hostile and reactionary foreign forces to oppose and sabotage us. They have smuggled into our country various kinds of reactionary books and newspapers through many different channels: the post, airlines, sea freight, or foreigners and overseas Vietnamese acting as carriers. They have also looked for people who they think are discontent or hold opposing views within our ranks. They would try to flatter these people and invite them to visit foreign countries for sightseeing and seminars to sow more suspicions and disunity and incite them to speak ill of our regime and to distort facts about Vietnam. They have sought to smuggle the bad writings of some people overseas for printing. They would pay a lot of money for these documents and, after printing, would send them back to Vietnam in many forms, or would broadcast them in the

Vietnamese programs of some Western radio stations to create political vacillation among a segment of the masses.

One of the cards they have thoroughly exploited is Bui Tin. In recent days, Bui Tin's activities have become increasingly feverish. He has established relations with the reactionaries, the opposition, and foreign intelligence agents. He is trying to get in touch with and attract some Vietnamese who are on official missions overseas, and to establish contact with a number of people inclined toward opposition inside the country in an attempt to muster force. Bui Tin is plunging more and more deeply onto the criminal road to oppose his homeland and people.

[VNA] Comrade, would you please tell us, if possible, who are the organizations, individuals, and exiled reactionaries behind these campaigns, and where are they?

[Leader] As a matter of fact, there are a whole lot of exiled reactionary organizations bearing all kinds of denominations, such as the Overseas Volunteers Group for National Restoration of Vo Dai Ton; the United National Front for the Liberation of Vietnam of Hoang Co Minh; the Youth Forum of Tran Nha Nguyen; the Vietnam Union of Revolutionary Parties of Hoang Van Cung; the Vietnam Roundtable for Self-Determination of Phan Tan Hung; the Alliance of Movements of Struggle for Freedom and Democracy of Nguyen Vo Ky, the author of the "Disseminate News About Vietnam" campaign; and the Committee for Defense of Vietnamese's Human Rights of Vo Van Ai, the creator of the "Transfer the Flames to the Homeland" campaign. However, all of these organizations exist only in name; most are set up to create a psychological impact, to deceive people, and to make money. Their programs, declarations, and appeals, which reek of anticommunism and have a provocative and subversive nature, are nothing but dog barking in a moonlit night. Those who attempt carry the flames back will get burned first, and those who sow the wind will surely reap the whirlwind.

[VNA] During a regular news conference on 29 April 1991, the leading comrades of the Interior Ministry's Counterintelligence General Department announced that Duong Thu Huong had been arrested by the investigative organ on charges of gathering and smuggling out of the country documents detrimental to national security. Could you elaborate on this case?

[Leader] Duong Thu Huong is a female writer with erroneous viewpoints. Starting off with taking advantage of the renovation, openess, and democracy to engage in opposition activities, she went to the extent of establishing contact with some ringleaders of various expatriate reactionary organizations such as Vo Van Ai, Vo Phiem, and Pham Duy. Fully aware of Duong Thu Huong's extremist views and whimsical character, these reactionaries tried to encourage and flatter her as part of their efforts to incite and use her as a stormtrooper against us. They regarded Duong Thu Huong as a cicada and also a loudspeaker with which they had exploited to the fullest. Recently, Duong Thu Huong established contact with Bui Duy Tam who had once been sent to a reeducation center for his evil actions before he fled abroad. True to our state policy of leniency, Bui Duy Tam was allowed to visit his relatives. Recently, from the United States, he returned to the country allegedly for visiting his relatives and for business purposes in his capacity as a broker. He established contact with some persons, including Duong Thu Huong. Bui Duy Tam handed over to Duong Thu Huong some reactionary documents and some so-called royalties for the latter's writings. In return, Duong Thu Huong also gave Bui Duy Tam some antigovernment documents written by herself and others and through Bui Duy Tam, she gathered information about internal secrets to smuggle out of the country, thus lending a helping hand to those hostile forces operating against us. With the approval of the Supreme Organ of Control, Duong Thu Huong was arrested by the investigative organ with sufficient incriminating evidence about her law-breaking activities.

Bui Duy Tam and Duong Thu Huong are not the only ones who were arrested. Recently the investigative organ also apprehended Bernard, a Vietnamese national in France who entered Vietnam as a tourist but actually brought money and documents from Bui Tin to a number of persons in Vietnam. He also used faked papers to make an illegal film aimed at distorting the situation in Vietnam and inciting antigovernment acitivites. While our country is under renovation, we need friends and people of good will. However, we are determined to cope with those taking advantage of the renovation to do harm to our national security.

[VNA] Do you, comrade, want to say anything to news agencies, the press, and other related organs about the growing schemes and actions of reactionary forces hostile to our country?

[Leader] Our party advocates continuing the renovation in the socialist direction. Restoring political stability in order to achieve socioeconomic development and to ensure successful renovation is now a very pressing requirement to be fulfilled by our entire party, army, and people. Reactionary forces hostile to us do not want our country to be stable. Faced with their sabotage activities, all Vietnamese citizens, public organs, and units are required to remain vigilant against their distorting propaganda, to actively participate in the cause of maintaining national security, struggle against hostile activities of those antigovernment elements inside and outside the country, and foil all their schemes and actions.

On this occasion, we propose that constant attention be paid by various information and propaganda organs to upholding the people's revolutionary vigilance so they can promptly react and neutralize the enemy's hostile and reactionary allegations and positively and promptly expose those erroneous and antigovernment viewpoints as well as perfidious criticisms, distortions, and slanders against our country.

We also ask that you, comrades, remind everyone of correctly complying with secrecy maintenance regulations and actively helping the People's Public Security Forces during their crackdowns on criminals in order to contribute to maintaining political security and public order and safety under all circumstances.

Thank you, comrades.

Council Issues Decree on Counterfeits

BK0805145891 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 1 May 91

[Text] On 25 April, the Council of Ministers issued Decree No. 140-HDBT establishing regulations on the control of and punishment for the production and trading of fake goods.

The decree clearly pointed out: All organizations and individuals engaged in all fields of production and trading of any economic sector must be accountable to their customers and the law for the quality of their products and goods. They must register the quality of their products and subject them to inspection and control by responsible state agencies. The state strictly prohibits all organizations and individuals from producing and dealing in fake goods, including imported goods. According to this decree, fake goods are commercial products that are produced unlawfully and that resemble in form commercial products, the production and importation of which are allowed by the state for sale on the market. Also considered as fake goods are those commercial products which do not have the use value as indicated by their origins, nature, names, and use.

Council of Ministers Issues Coal Mine Directive

BK0805152991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] The chairman of the Council of Ministers recently issued Directive No. 108-CT concerning the reorganization of production at the Quang Ninh coal mine under the overall socioeconomic development strategy for the entire Quang Ninh area.

The principal content of the directive clearly pointed out: There must be an early end to the wanton, wasteful, and inefficient extraction and use of coal. The Ministry of Energy must reexamine and rearrange production on the basis of considering economic efficiency as the main objective. With regard to restoring order in coal extraction, the Ministry of Heavy Industry must take the lead and join the Ministry of Energy and the People's Committee of Quang Ninh Province in issuing, by 30 June 1991 at the latest, a regulation clearly defining the boundaries of the coal mines currently under production. All state-operated coal extraction establishments of the central and local echelons must be consolidated and reorganized in accordance with Council of Ministers Decision 315-HDBT dated 1 September 1990.

Decision on Import-Export of Goods Issued

BK0805070791 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 24 Apr 91

[Text] On 19 April, the Council of Ministers issued Decision No. 126 to amend some regulations on the implementation of import- export tax on non-commercial commodities.

Accordingly, all commodities can be exported except scrap metal, which has been previously processed for raw material.

The Ministry of Finance will consider individually to exempt or reduce taxes for agricultural commodities produced at a loss due to objective reasons when the minimum tax rate is applied for.

All imported natural resources and imported goods which are reexported will have their import taxes returned in full, except where import tax has been exempted or tax returns regulated by Article 9 and 10 of Decree 08 of the Council of Ministers on 30 April 1988. The Finance Ministry will regulate the assessment and import for export tax returns on an individual basis, as mentioned.

All organizations must pay within 30 days after receiving official information on the amount of tax due. The Customs Service Department has the right to request the bank to withdraw the unpaid tax from the commodity owner's account and to credit it to the national budget if any organization has not paid the tax within the time limit, apart from the penalty stipulated by the current regulations.

This decision comes into effect on the day of the signing, and any previous stipulation conflicting with this decision is rescinded.

Payment Rules on Foreign Trade Issued

BK0805060991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 18 Apr 91

[Text] On 12 April 1991, the chairman of the Council of Ministers issued Decision 112 on payment for import-export goods and services of economic organizations. This is to help commodity import-export organizations have sufficient capital for business and to implement the 1991 inter-governmental agreements on goods exchange and credit with foreign countries. The decision stipulates:

Credit payment of import-export goods and services between our country and foreign countries will be made in the framework of bilateral agreements through banks in the specified currency. The bank will pay related economic organizations all foreign currencies collected for exports and services under the agreement three working days after it receives the transaction records.

Payment will be made in the Vietnamese currency based on the exchange rate announced by the bank at the point of transaction.

All payments made by economic organizations in foreign currencies for imported goods and services under the agreement must be given to the bank within seven days after the bank quotes the sum in Vietnamese currency. This sum will be based on the exchange rate as announced by the bank on the transaction day.

This decision is retroactive from 1 January 1991. All previous stipulations conflicting with this decision are rescinded.

The supply of goods and services on credit outside the agreement is not included in this decision.

Ministry Issues Notice on Use of New Press Card

BK0905034891 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 22 Apr 91

[Text] The Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports, and Tourism has issued a notice on the use of a new journalist's identification card for the 1991-95 period. The notice says:

The 7 cm x 10 cm new journalist's identification card has a light yellow background and bears the caption Journalist's Card in dark yellow. The card bears a sealed black-and-white or color photograph of the carrier, with two red lines printed on the botton left corner of the card. The new journalist's card is issued for use as of 1 April 1991. This notice is to inform various social agencies and organizations and people so that they may provide assistance and enable journalists to carry out their duties.

Nguyen Khanh Attends State Bank Ceremony

BK0805154391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Yesterday, 6 May, the banking sector held a grand ceremony in Hanoi to mark the 40th founding anniversary of the Vietnam State Bank. Nguyen Khanh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and many other leaders and representatives of the various ministries, departments, and branches at the center and in Hanoi attended. Comrade Cao Sy Kiem, governor of the State Bank, read a report outlining the founding and growth of the Vietnamese banking sector over the past 40 years, clearly affirming the noticeable efforts and achievements of the banking sector, and, at the same time, pointing out many shortcomings and deficiencies that should be urgently overcome. A letter addressed by Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State, to cadres and employees of the banking sector on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the State Bank was read at the ceremony.

Cooperation Documents Signed With DPRK on 2 May

BK0705135891 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 2 May 91

[Text] This morning, 2 May, at the Government Guest House, with the authority of the SRV Government, Le Mai, deputy minister of foreign affairs, and Yi Hong, DPRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Vietnam, signed a plan on cultural and scientific cooperation in 1991 between the two countries Vietnam and Korea.

On the same day, Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai and his DPRK counterpart Cho Kyu-il signed a memorandum of understanding on cooperation between the two foreign ministries of the two countries. Witness at the function were Nguyen Quyet, secretary of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of State, Le Xuan Vinh, vice chairman of the State Planning Commission, Vice President Yi Chong-ok, and members of the DPRK government delegation.

During their stay in Vietnam, Vice President Yi Chong-ok and members of the delegation visited the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, Ho Chi Minh's living and working place, the Ho Chi Minh Museum, the Military Museum, and the provinces of Ha Nam Ninh and Quang Ninh.

In Ha Nam Ninh Province, the delegation visited the Nam Dinh Weaving Factory, a fraternized unit with the Pyongyang Weaving Factory of the DPRK. Leading comrades of the factory and the province gave the delegation a warm and friendly reception.

DPRK Delegation Ends Visit

BK0705164191 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 2 May 91

[Text] The delegation of the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea led by Comrade Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Korean Labor Party and vice president of the DPRK, left Hanoi this morning on 2 May and satisfactorily concluded his friendly visit to our country.

From the Government Guest House, Nguyen Quyet, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of State; Le Xuan Vinh, vice chairman of the State Planning Commission, vice chairman of the Vietnam branch of the SRV- DPRK Inter-Government Commission; and Le Mai, deputy minister of foreign affairs saw Vice President Yi Chong-ok and members of the DPRK delegation off at their cars. The Hanoi children also gave the vice president and the Korean guests fresh flowers.

Before parting, Vice President Yi Chong-ok again asked Comrade Nguyen Quyet to convey the solemn concluding remarks of the delegation to Secretary General Nguyen Van Linh and Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State, and profound appreciation to the party, state, and Vietnamese people for the warm and sincere reception for the delegation.

Nguyen Dinh Luc, deputy director of the Office of the National Assembly and the Council of State; Yi Hong, DPRK ambassador to Vietnam; and many comrades of the embassy went to the Noi Bai International Airport to see the delegation off.

Investment Firm Set Up With Cambodia

BK0805081191 Hanoi VNA in English 0639 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 8—The Vietnamese Ministry of Commerce has decided to set up a shareholder general company for import, export and investment with Cambodia.

The company's first activities are to coordinate with the Cambodian side in investment, production, import, export and services in preparation for the establishment of a binational company.

The Ministry of Commerce has granted licenses to 18 centrally-or provincially-run units throughout the country to exchange goods and conduct import and export operation with Cambodian units in commerce, agriculture, forestry, banking, maritime products and mining.

The shareholder general company includes representatives of the Vietnamese companies which are currently doing business with Cambodia.

Do Muoi Sends Sympathy Message to Uzbek Republic

BK0705155991 Hanoi VNA in English 1319 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 7 - Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi has extended his sympathq to I. Karimov, president of the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic, and the Uzbek Government and people over the great losses in lives and property caused by recent [passage indistinct] in Tashkent.

Energy Cooperation With USSR Develops

BK0805075191 Hanoi VNA in English 0632 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 8—The founding and development of Vietnam's energy industry, in general, and of its electricity, coal, and oil and gas, in particular, is inseparable from the close ties and great assistance from the Soviet Union.

With the Pha Lai Thermo-Electric Power Plant, which has over the past 11 years turned out 14 billion kwh of electricity, and the Hoa Binh Hydro-Electric Power Plant for northern and central provinces, and the 400 mw Tri An Hydro-Electric Power Plant for the southern provinces, the total electric capacity and output of Vietnam this year almost double those in 1985 which stood at 1.656 million kw and 5.387 billion kwh respectively, thus greatly helping localities in saving fuels and fighting against droughts and floods.

Besides its material and technological assitance to build power plants, the Soviet Union has also helped to set up a network of 4,571 km high-voltage and low-voltage electric transmitting lines out of the total 57,000 km-long system of Vietnam.

In coal production, the Soviet Union has helped in designing and providing equipment for factories and coal mines in Cao Son, Nui Hong, Na Duong, Mong Duong, Mao Khe and Lang Cam in the northern coastal province of Quang Ninh which altogether have a total designed yearly capacity of 12.4 million tons.

Oil and gas production has also seen close cooperation and assistance from the Soviet Union, joint Vietnamese-Soviet ventures over the past years have tapped over 6 million tons of crude oil. At a recent meeting on energy matters in Vietnam, the two countries reached agreement on the principles and measures to better the bilateral ties on the basis of new economic relations for mutual benefits.